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# THE TIMES

No. 64,529 THURSDAY DECEMBER 31 1992 45p

## Smith hit by crossfire as Labour splits at the top

**A clash between the "modernisers" and those who believe Labour has already compromised too far is marring John Smith's reforming efforts**

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith's efforts to regain power for Labour after the loss of four elections are being hampered by divisions at the top of the party over the strategy it needs to adopt to win in 1996 or 1997.

The Labour leader has been caught in the crossfire between two factions with diametrically differing views of how the party should respond to its election defeat last April.

A group including Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and Margaret Beckett, the deputy leader, who want to continue the reforming efforts begun under Neil Kinnock, are being strongly resisted by a faction led by John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, and including national executive colleagues such as Clare Short, who believe that the party has compromised too much on its traditional beliefs.

An impasse has developed inside a powerful committee established by Mr Smith to run Labour's campaigning strategy. Known as the leader's committee, it is chaired by Mrs Beckett and includes many senior members of the shadow cabinet.

Its first two meetings have ended inconclusively after lengthy, sometimes acrimonious, discussions. The second, held on the day the Commons rose for the Christmas recess, was described by one participant as "terrible". Mrs Beckett was said to have "laid down the law" and told her colleagues that the discussions should remain confidential if they were to have any practical effect and proceed on the basis of trust; however, left-wingers challenged this view and said the party should not be muzzle but hold an open debate about its future.

At the heart of the dispute is confidential voter research, recently presented to the party, which the reformers are claiming as evidence that it must continue to change if it is to return to power. A group of electors who contemplated voting Labour in April, but decided late in the campaign against doing so, told researchers they would still not back the party if there were an election tomorrow.

At the first leader's committee meeting, senior shadow cabinet members argued the party must widen its base and shake off its union-dominated image, while keeping the traditional link between the industrial and political wings of

the movement, if it were ever to succeed.

But they encountered vehement opposition from shadow cabinet members such as Mr Prescott. He launched an open challenge to the modernisers, speaking out strongly in favour of close ties with the union movement and suggesting that Labour had compromised enough to the marketing men. Mr Prescott pointed out that the abandonment of allegedly unpopular policies had not won Labour the election.

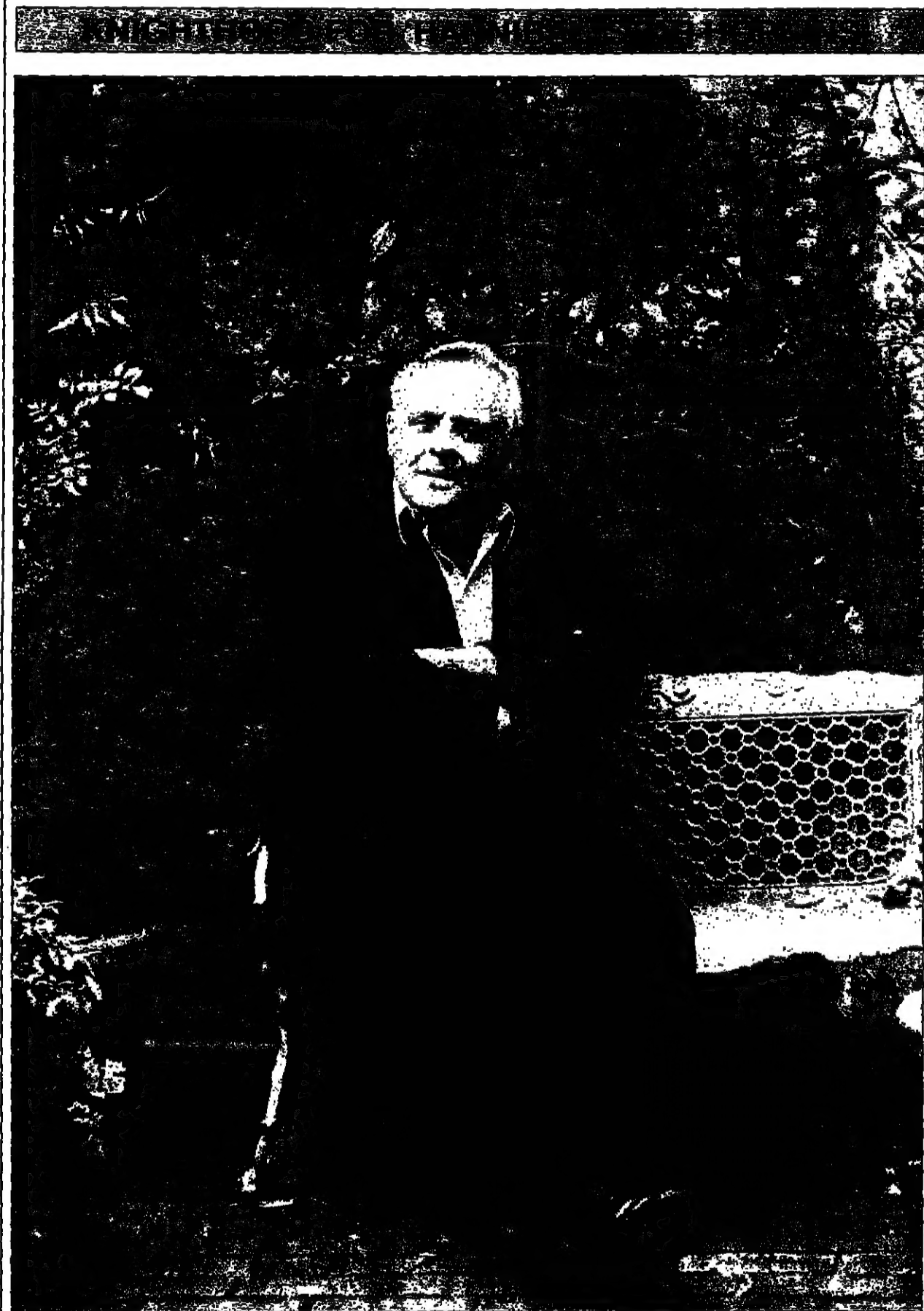
He was backed strongly by Ms Short and fellow left-wingers. Even Larry Whitty, the general secretary, is reported to have voiced doubt about Labour's ability to attract many more voters by such methods. Their view was that Labour should consolidate on its existing base.

The left is accusing the reformers, through bodies such as the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, which recently criticised Mr Smith, of pursuing their own agenda of one member, one vote, removal of the union link, and the ending of universal benefits.

The dispute has been aggravated, some participants say, by the disinclination of Mr Smith to give shadow cabinet colleagues a hint of what he wishes to see coming out of party enquiries on electoral reform and union links.

But sources on the left say the modernisers are nervous and frustrated by Mr Smith's refusal to lead in the Kinnock style. One said: "Neil used to tell his friends on the NEC [national executive committee] what he wanted, and he got it. When he set up an enquiry, he gave an indication of what he wanted, and he got it. Smith is more interested in listening to the left than Neil ever was, and some people can't stand it."

The leader's committee is usually set up by Labour leaders to take charge of strategy in the immediate run-up to a general election. Mr Smith has broken with tradition in establishing it so early in the life of a parliament.



Hopkins: hopes his knighthood is not only for his performance as a serial killer. (Photograph: Michael Powell)

**Holiday parents abandon two girls at home**

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A SUN-TANNED Chicago man and his wife have been arrested on their return from a nine-day holiday in Mexico after leaving their two small daughters by themselves for Christmas in a cruel parody of the hit film *Home Alone*.

Nicole Schoo, 9, and her sister Diana, 4, were discovered at the family's suburban home in St Charles, Illinois, when a smoke alarm went off last week. Their parents had left them a refrigerator full of food and a note telling them what to eat and when to go to bed, but no means of contacting them.

David Schoo, 45, who works for a smoke-alarm maker, and his wife Sharon, 35, were handcuffed and led away as they stepped off their plane home from Acapulco to Chicago's O'Hare airport on Tuesday. Bystanders shouted "Scrooge" as they were taken away to jail, with bail set at \$50,000 each.

They were charged with child abandonment, cruelty to children and child endangerment. Their daughters have been made wards of the state and stayed with their maternal grandmother until Tuesday, when they were moved to a foster family in the area. The grandmother told police she thought that the parents had made arrangements to look after them.

In *Home Alone*, a young boy, also from suburban Chicago, has to fend for himself after he is mistakenly left behind by his family when they take a Christmas trip to Paris. The sequel, *Home Alone II*, is showing in cinemas around the United States.

The two sisters' plight came to light on December 21 — Continued on page 3, col 8

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**Bullish Lamont offers no early rate cuts**

BY PETER RIDDELL AND ANATOLE KALETSKY

BRITAIN'S economy will do much better next year than in 1992, but there will be no further reductions in interest rates unless growth falls below the Treasury's expectations, according to Norman Lamont, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a new interview with *The Times*. He is bullish about economic prospects and unrepentant about the government's performance in the past year.

Mr Lamont said: "Recent evidence has been encouraging. We have had very good car sales in December and reports of buoyant sales in the shops. Surveys of business confidence have improved. There is every reason to believe that 1993 will be much better than 1992. I would not be surprised if trends in the British economy were better than in some of our European competitors."

Mr Lamont's remarks may, however, disappoint the City, where many investors have been hoping for a further cut in interest rates early in the new year. The Chancellor said that interest rate reductions would be considered only "if monetary demand was manifestly too low".

Asked whether he would expect to change interest rates if the economy performed in line with the Treasury's forecast of 1 per cent growth, the Chancellor replied with an emphatic "no".

He repeatedly expressed confidence that he had done enough in his Autumn Statement to ensure that his forecasts of economic recovery would be fulfilled.

Mr Lamont said that Autumn Statement measures for industry and housing, and the big cuts in interest rates and Continued on page 2, col 5

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### Food prices tumble in superstores war

By PATRICIA TEHAN

THE supermarket giant Sainsbury is to cut prices on hundreds of products from Sunday. Rivals Tesco and Sainsbury will join the fray on Monday. All promise customer discounts of up to 50 per cent on hundreds of their food and drink products. None would disclose details last night.

Gateway is also planning a promotion on some of its basic food lines from Monday. Asda, which is offering discounts of up to 50 per cent on some foods, pledged to keep its food prices lower than the others.

Sainsbury started the price war with news of reductions on 750 items, described by the company as its "biggest and best ever price cuts package". It will start in 140 of its biggest stores and eight Sava centres on Sunday with cuts ranging from 15 to 50 per cent. The reductions will cover meat, wine, dairy and frozen foods.

Tesco followed suit almost immediately. A spokeswoman said: "Our promotional programme has always been at least as competitive as that of Sainsbury and we anticipate

### Black Sea summit on nuclear pact

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENTS Yeltsin and Bush will meet in the Black Sea resort of Sochi to sign the Start 2 treaty at the weekend.

This second full summit between the American and Russian leaders will provide Mr Bush with a final foreign policy success as he prepares to hand over the presidency to Bill Clinton on January 20.

The treaty, final details of which were agreed in Geneva by foreign ministers of the two countries, will cut stockpiles of strategic nuclear warheads by two-thirds. It will abolish the most dangerous Cold war weapon — intercontinental land-based missiles with multiple warheads.

Mr Bush said he had spoken to Mr Yeltsin by telephone yesterday, and said the treaty was "good for all mankind".

Mr Bush will go to Sochi, a sub-tropical resort long favoured by the Soviet elite, after a new year visit to US forces in Somalia.

### New year honour for TV's David Frost

By PHILIP WEBSTER

THE actor Anthony Hopkins and television personality David Frost are both knighted today in the New Year Honours List. They head an array of honours in a list that will be the last before John Major begins changing the system.

Although Hopkins is best known for his role as the serial killer Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter in *The Silence of The Lambs*, he hoped that the knighthood was not purely a result of the film. "I wouldn't like to think that that was the reason for it, and I would hate to become a national institution," he said.

Mr Frost, 53, who made his name fronting the irreverent *That Was The Week That Was* 30 years ago, has interviewed many world leaders in the past two decades and on Sunday begins a new BBC career by interviewing the prime minister.

Among the six new Dames are Catherine Cookson, the novelist, who is honoured for her charitable work, and Margaret Price, the operatic soprano. Britain's winners in last summer's Olympic Games became MBES.

Mr Major is shortly to make a statement on how he intends to bring the honours system up to date. Next year's list will be the first test of the prime minister's resolve to introduce a system that concentrates on merit and gradually ends the process by which senior civil servants and diplomats are virtually guaranteed awards according to rank.

Shirley Williams, the former SDP president and Labour education secretary, is the only life peer named today. She is the last of the original Gang of Four, who founded the SDP, to take her seat in the Lords.

There are awards for two television entertainers, Leslie Crowther and Roy Castle, who have had brushes with death this year and are honoured for their charity work. In sport, Gordon Strachan, the Leeds United midfielder, former Scottish international and 1991 footballer of the year, becomes an OBE, as does Micky Stewart, the former England cricket team manager.

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## MPs call for special team to police MI5 operations

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A TEAM of MPs will call next month for a special parliamentary committee to be set up to scrutinise the work of the intelligence services.

In a report to be published on January 13, the Commons home affairs committee is to argue that the time has come to make MI5 and the other security services more accountable by establishing a new committee. However, it is likely to recommend that committee membership be confined to privy counsellors, who are bound by an oath of confidentiality.

The report centres on MI5, which covers anti-terrorist operations within the UK, but it is expected to suggest that Parliament also monitor MI6 and military intelligence, as in many other countries.

The decision by the Tory-majority committee, chaired by Sir Ivan Lawrence, to demand more accountability puts it on collision course with Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary.

During its enquiry, Mr Clarke told the committee that he believed it was impossible for MPs to police MI5 without delving into its operations, which could put the lives of its agents at risk.

The committee believes that a special body of MPs could monitor the agency's policies without trespassing into operational details. It may recommend that chairmen and representatives from the home affairs, foreign affairs and

defence committees make up the bulk of the new body to reflect the three strands of the intelligence services.

The key area for investigation would be MI5's strategy for tracking down IRA terrorists and thwarting mainland bombing campaigns. The MPs were influenced by the decision to give MI5 the leading role in the fight against terrorism, eroding the committee's powers for scrutinising anti-crime activities.

John Major's policy advisers are also known to be considering ways of making the security services more accountable for their actions. Early indications suggest that, although they would not favour an existing select committee shadowing the work of the security services, they are not adverse to a committee of privy counsellors being allowed access to non-operational information.

Legislation will be introduced, possibly next year, to put MI5 on the same statutory basis as MI6, which was regulated by the 1989 Security Service Act.

The all-party committee's January report is not expected to be critical of MI5, but rejects Mr Clarke's case for stopping MPs from examining any aspect of its work. The committee is likely to make concessions to Mr Clarke by agreeing that all MPs be deprived of their automatic right to sit in on the deliberations of the new body to guarantee secrecy.

The recommendations will be carefully phrased to avoid offending MPs who are not privy counsellors. There will be no suggestion that they cannot be trusted to keep discussions confidential.

The home secretary turned down the committee's request to question Stella Rimington, head of MI5, at a formal hearing. After some committee MPs complained that she had accepted invitations to lunch from journalists, Mr Clarke reluctantly agreed that six MPs on the committee should have an informal lunch with Mrs Rimington in her London office on January 18. The main topic of conversation is likely to be the committee's report and the IRA's mainland bombing campaign.

## RSC hit by loss of sponsor

By ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

THE Royal Shakespeare Company's finances took a severe blow yesterday with the announcement that the Royal Insurance group will cease its sponsorship at the end of 1993.

The largest single sponsorship of a performing arts company began in 1988 when Royal Insurance donated £1.2 million to the RSC over three years. The contract was renewed in 1991 for £2.1 million, taking the RSC through to 1993.

The RSC said it was under no illusions about the difficulty of attracting such large sums from business. "We are in the teeth of recession and it isn't the easiest time to be looking for new sponsors," the company has a year's grace before thinking about cutbacks and every effort will be made to find alternative support, a spokesman said.

Royal Insurance sponsors specific projects at the Barbican and at Stratford upon Avon. It established the RSC/Royal Insurance annual tour in 1988 and it is in these areas that cuts may have to be made.

BT announced the end of its sponsorship of part of the RSC's touring activity earlier this year. Richard III was subsequently sent on the road without a sponsor and did not visit all the planned locations.

Adrian Noble, RSC artistic director, said he hoped the decision did not preclude future partnership with the company, adding: "We quite understand their position. We have 12 months in which to plan for this change."



Set for the sun: the Princess of Wales boards a flight for Antigua at Gatwick

## Princess takes sons to Caribbean

THE Princess of Wales, reunited with Princes William and Harry, flew out to the tiny island of Antigua in the Caribbean yesterday.

She and her sons are then expected to fly to St Kitts, another island in the West Indies, which has already been vetted by detectives travelling ahead for the week-long holiday.

The princess is thought to be making the trip to compensate for not being with William and Harry over Christmas, which they spent at Sandringham. She left Kensington Palace yesterday travelling with the eight other

members of the party. At Gatwick they drove onto the tarmac alongside the British Airways 747. Looking thin and slightly pale in a blue blazer and slacks, she turned briefly to look back, but there was no flicker of a smile before she disappeared inside the aircraft, clutching a black and white striped duffel bag.

The holiday comes after the princess spent last week at the Prince of Wales and other members of the royal family while the princess remained at Althorp Hall, the Northamptonshire home of her brother, Earl Spencer. Her mother, Frances Shand

## Lifers on home visits honour promises

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

PRISONERS serving life sentences in Northern Ireland, including some of the province's most notorious paramilitary killers, all returned to jail on time yesterday after their third Christmas home leave.

The Northern Ireland Office said that 456 prisoners were allowed out for Christmas of which 120 were lifers from both sides of the political divide.

The scheme, which is unique to Northern Ireland, allows prisoners who have served a minimum of 11 years to go home for a week over Christmas and another week in August. It is made clear to them before temporary parole is granted that anyone who absconds will bring the scheme to an abrupt end.

Lifers were included in the scheme for the first time three years ago. While in England home leave at Christmas and at other times is granted to prisoners only after a date has been fixed for their permanent release, in Northern Ireland the scheme is more flexible.

However, this causes problems. Some of the prisoners released this Christmas were on their sixth home visit but still have no prospect of a permanent release. They believe this contradicts the stated intention of the Northern Ireland Office to use the scheme to help integrate long serving prisoners back into society and family life in preparation for their release.

One prisoner caught in this trap is Felim O'Hagan, a former member of the IRA who was sentenced to life for the murder of a police officer in 1977. O'Hagan was told in September that a recommendation by the life sentence review board that he be released had been turned down by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary. He has been told that he must serve at least another two years before his case can be reviewed.

O'Hagan said this week that this leaves him and his family in a very difficult position. "The two criteria for release are that you are no longer a risk and that you have served enough time. If I didn't meet these why am I being let out on parole? They're playing politics with prisoners and their families. It's designed to create confusion and put pressure on your family."

A Northern Ireland Office spokesman was unavailable to comment on the case.

## Stabbing of WPC: man is charged

A 28-year-old unemployed man appeared in court yesterday charged with the attempted murder of police woman Leslie Harrison. Stephen Doyle, of Everton, Liverpool, said nothing during the 10-minute hearing before the city's magistrates. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Mr Doyle also faced one charge of wounding, three of attempted wounding, another of attempted burglary, the unlawful taking of a taxi and driving without insurance. He made no application for bail, and was remanded in custody until January 6. Miss Harrison, 29, of Warrington, Cheshire, was said to be "making good progress" in a Liverpool hospital yesterday.

## Windsor to reopen

Windsor Castle is to be reopened to the public next month at a reduced price so the fire damage can be viewed. The ruined St George's Hall and the Grand Reception Room will be on view behind protective screens. A spokesman said: "There is a lot of public interest in what has happened here and we may benefit if people can have a look at the fire damage. It will look pretty gritty, with just smoke-blackened walls." Work to restore the rooms, expected to last several years and cost £60 million, will continue as visitors look on. The castle reopens on January 16, and will charge £2.50, reduced from £4. About 800,000 visitors a year visited the castle before the fire last month.

## Police get baby tip-off

Police are hoping a telephone tip-off from an anonymous caller will lead them to the mother of a newborn baby abandoned on a freezing golf course. Inquiries centred on the village of Carlton, Nottinghamshire, where a man who appeared to have knowledge of the mother telephone from a kiosk just after midnight. It is four miles north of Worksop, where the baby was found on Monday. Police believe the mother may need urgent medical attention. The baby was continuing to make a good recovery at Basildon General Hospital, Worksop, where staff named him Christopher. He was put in a cot yesterday morning, his temperature has stabilised and he is feeding regularly.

## Plea by murder police

Police seeking the killer of 14-year-old Johanna Young appealed yesterday to anyone who may be harbouring the murderer. Det Supt Michael Cole said: "The killer undoubtedly would have been heavily mud-stained and may have suffered scratches from brambles. I ask families to consider this, with the serious nature of this crime, and if they have any doubts about anyone close to them, inform us." The girl's body was found on Boxing day in woodland a mile from her home at Watton, Norfolk.

## Speelman chases title

After three rounds of the Hastings chess tournament Jon Speelman, right, the London grandmaster, shares the lead with favourite Evgeny Bareev from Moscow after beating the Hungarian Judit Polgar, 16, the world's youngest grandmaster. Bareev beat the lowly ranked British master Colin Crouch. Britons John Nunn and Matthew Sadler, in third and fifth positions, drew their



game. Polgar is fourth. The players, who must face each other twice, have no games today. The competition ends on January 13. Full scores after round three: Bareev (Russia), Speelman (UK) 2½ points; Nunn (UK) 2; Polgar (Hungary), Sadler (UK) 1½; Potugavski (Russia) 1; Crouch (UK), Gurevich (USA), 0.

## Rider killed by horse

A university lecturer was crushed to death by her horse after it collapsed on top of her during a Boxing day ride, it was disclosed yesterday. Caroline Bell, 25, a psychology lecturer at Stafford University, had gone out alone into the countryside near her parents' home in Milford, Surrey, after lunch. She was found an hour later, trapped under her lifeless gelding Beadle, by walkers. Mr Bell, 52, a schoolteacher, said that he and his wife Nadine, 48, were already prepared for the worst when the news of Caroline's death reached them almost three hours after she set off. He said her death had wiped out a promising career as one of the youngest lecturers in the country.

## Boy 'divorces' mother

A teenage boy whose mother constantly ridiculed him has won the right to live away from her, a solicitor said yesterday. The boy, 16, from Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, moved in with his grandparents after a ruling from a judge at Nottingham Crown Court on December 16. The mother is banned from contact with him. Mary Jolly, the solicitor who handled the case, said that the boy was made to eat away from his family and that his education was suffering. The mother was not informed of the hearing.

## Dial 112 in emergency

A new Europe-wide emergency telephone number comes into effect tomorrow. Anyone dialling 112 will be linked to police, fire and ambulance in a scheme that will run parallel with 999 in Britain. The emergency number will help up to ten million Britons who visit the EC each year and millions of European visitors to the UK. BT said there was no question of 999 being scrapped. A European Commission spokesman said all 12 states had agreed to put the 112 number into operation during 1993.

## Victims of crime 'hurt' by news reports

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE identities of crime victims should only be published with their consent, and families should be consulted before "true crime" magazines or television programmes re-enact their stories, according to a report by the Victim Support organisation.

The rise of such magazines and television programmes which dramatise sensational stories hurts families who may learn painful new details. One father described the experience as "trespassing on our grief".

Victim Support suggests in the report, released today, that journalists should at least warn families that articles or programmes are being prepared.

The report, *Victims Twice Over*, was drawn up for the Calcutt review of press self-regulation and investigations into media intrusion and privacy. Two years after the original Calcutt report, evidence suggests that victims are still suffering a "secondary victimisation" at the hands of the media when journalists

pursue victims and use deception to get their stories.

Cases cited include a woman who was seriously attacked and whose family specifically requested the police for no publicity. A reporter from a national tabloid newspaper reached her in hospital and pestered the family for photographs. The newspaper was asked twice not to identify the woman and ignored the requests. The woman had difficulty recovering because of the publicity and the family is moving.

In another case, the victim of an attempted murder had his address printed and was visited at 2am by two intimidating friends of his attacker.

Victim Support says there is also concern at the way newspapers report claims made about victims when mitigation is being given in court by defence lawyers and suggests that newspapers should check thoroughly before running the stories. It calls for tougher controls over journalists, whether by voluntary code or law.

## Man dies in police car escape

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN arrested on suspicion of criminal damage died after jumping out of an escape-proof police car.

Wayne Bowen, 31, of Sheerness, Kent was being taken to Sittingbourne police station in the specially adapted vehicle when he kicked out the side window and climbed on to the roof. As the WPC driving the Peugeot 309 patrol car braked, he fell in front of it.

A spokeswoman for Kent police said the car was designed to transport prisoners. "Inside is a thick perspex bubble which separates the police officers from the prisoner in the rear. Standard glass is fitted to the windows but the winding mechanism and internal door handles are removed, along with the locks."

"This man was arrested following a pub disturbance. He was being taken to Sittingbourne police station for questioning. It was a minor offence. We are baffled as to why he climbed out of the car."

## Lamont bullish on new year prospects

Continued from page 1

the devaluation of sterling since Black Wednesday had "created the right conditions for confidence and growth". Monetary policy had already been relaxed "very substantially" through the interest-rate cut and sterling's devaluation.

Mr Lamont estimated that as much as two-thirds of the impact of the recent three-point reduction in interest rates was "still in the pipeline" and added that the "very warm welcome" given by industry to his Autumn Statement measures meant that there was "every chance that they will succeed". The combination of monetary relaxation and carefully directed fiscal measures had opened opportunities for business and created a climate of confidence.

Mr Lamont was unrepentant about sterling's withdrawal from the European exchange-rate mechanism. The ERM had brought "enormous benefits" to Europe and had helped Britain to defeat inflation during its membership, he said. However, if other countries now chose to tie their currencies even more

closely in narrower ERM margins, the implications for Britain would be limited, he said.

Mr Lamont was unperturbed by the size of Britain's current account deficit, despite concern in the business community that the balance of payments gap will be a constraint on economic growth. "I don't believe we will have difficulty in financing the deficit. I'm obviously not indifferent to the current account, but I do not regard it as my major problem," he said.

The economic problem that did seem to worry Mr Lamont was the high level of the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR). "Our objective for the PSBR remains to move back towards balance as the economy recovers. This is a serious issue which I shall be examining carefully," he said. He ruled out any cuts in public spending or increases in taxes that would conflict with election manifesto promises, but refused to comment on speculation that value-added tax might have to be extended to zero-rated items.

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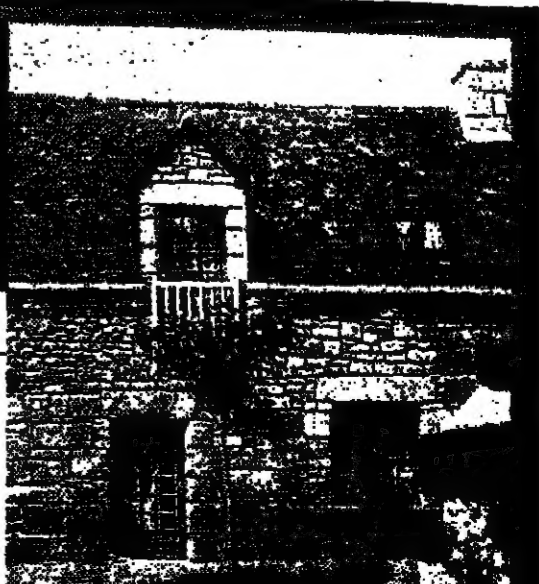
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## Cheaper home loans entice couples to switch from renting

By IAN MURRAY

YOUNG couples are leading the way in a new house-buying boom, having discovered that it is cheaper to own their home than to rent one. Estate agents around the country confirmed yesterday that the first-time buyer can expect to pay up to a third less in mortgage repayments than in rent on a similar property.

"The difference can be as much as £200 a month," according to David Goldsworthy, an agent based in Ealing, west London, who specialises in rental property. "It is all a question of affordability. Young couples are coming into my office now and saying they only want a short-term lease because they are thinking of buying in the spring."

Mr Goldsworthy is president-elect of the National Association of Estate Agents, which claims that December has been the busiest month for three years, due to lower interest rates. "People are coming back into the buying market and opting out of renting," he said.

According to Keith Turner, Watford regional manager of the Cornerstone Abbey National group agency: "There has been a very encouraging December and we are now hopeful it will follow through into the new year. The only factor that is missing is confidence in the employment mar-

ket and we can do nothing about that.

"The ratio of house prices to salaries is at its lowest for many years and people have started to realise the real value of their buying power. The rent on an average house around here can be about £400 a month, while the same property on an 80 per cent mortgage will only cost £270 a month. That fact is proving a big attraction."

Peter White, chief executive of Alliance and Leicester, said: "There is evidence to suggest that, for some, interest rates and property prices are now low enough to encourage people to buy rather than to rent." He said that his group had seen a substantial increase in sales recently, with sales being noticeably up on a year ago. "This is a very encouraging sign although it is too early to say whether it marks a definite upturn."

Maureen Freeman, of GA Property Services, said that December had seen an average increase in business of 20 to 25 per cent over the same month last year. "There has been a significant improvement in the number of people coming through offices to make enquiries and this held up steadily through to Christmas. There are also a lot more properties which have been sold subject to contract, which means there is an increased

pipeline leading into next year. In January we will be monitoring what is happening with hearts pounding to see if they haven't spent all their savings in the sales and stop buying houses."

Mrs Freeman had also noticed people switching away from rented property. "Buying a house means people have more choice. They are asking: 'What is this going to cost me a month?' and finding that a three-bedroom house is around £75 a week to rent. For a similar sort of sum they can choose from a larger selection of houses for sale. Like for like, it is cheaper to buy than to rent."

In Exeter, Ray Casling, director of the local agency Constables, said that business had picked up in the last week of November, which had been the best week his firm had seen for two years. The figures had been beaten in each successive week in December.

"It is normally quite quiet over Christmas, but there seems to be a desire to go out and buy," he said. "The interest rates are at their lowest and those with secure jobs suddenly seem to have had enough of waiting and have decided, 'Let's go for it.' Prices may drop a little bit more over the next three months, but then we might see stability. That is what we need to create confidence again."



Flight to jail: David and Sharon Schoo being led away by police after arriving home from holiday in Mexico

## Parents abandon daughters

Continued from page 1  
day after their parents left — when they splashed water into a heating vent while taking a bath, triggering a smoke alarm. Nicole telephoned police emergency number and the two fled barefoot and screaming from the house.

Connie Stadelmann, the neighbour who discovered them, said: "I wrapped them up in blankets to warm them up and then I said, 'Where's your Mom or Dad?' and they said, 'They're in Mexico.' How could anybody ever do this? Who could ever think that as parents they would go away for ten days and leave their kids?"

She said that Nicole had told the police that the two sisters had been left alone for four days last summer when their parents went to Massachusetts. "For a long time, I was feeling really lonely and wondering what they were doing," Nicole told a local television station.

Police said Mr and Mrs Schoo were apparently unaware that they faced arrest on their return to Chicago. Neither said anything as they were led from the airport. They did not ask about their daughters, but did ask if they could collect their luggage — a surprising speculation that they might have brought their children Christmas presents.

"It's a possibility," a police sergeant said. "They had a tremendous amount of carry-on luggage with them, and luggage they checked in."

## Glue attack milkman recovers

THE eyes of the mugged milkman Adrian Stayte remained superglued closed yesterday, but doctors were hopeful that he would be able to see again within a few days.

Mr Stayte was at home yesterday in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, where his wife Jeanette regularly bathed his eyelids with a solvent to weaken the superglue and make it flake off. He also had a further hospital check-up.

His employer, Cotswold Dairies, offered a £1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Mr Stayte's attackers. Roger Workman, the managing director, said: "This was such a vicious act that we felt we had to do something."

Mr Stayte said that when the glue was squirted into his eyes "it really stung", and went on: "I was terrified as I suddenly realised what it is to be blind. But I am hopeful that in three to four days I shall be able to see again. Only a very small amount of glue got past my eyelids and touched one eye but the doctors think it will be OK."

Two men attacked Mr Stayte at 3.45am on Tuesday on his round in Cheltenham.

## Teenagers look to Europe for jobs

By NICHOLAS WATT

A SURVEY of teenage attitudes published yesterday raises the prospect of a "youth drain" to the Continent. More than three-quarters of the 13 to 17-year-olds questioned (78 per cent) said they would be happy to work in Europe if they found the right job. Only 13 per cent said they would not consider working in another European country.

Nearly half (45 per cent) of the teenagers questioned in the TSB Major's Children '92 survey supported a single European currency and more than a third (39 per cent) thought it was great to be part of the EC. But the teenagers were by no means Euro-fanatics. Thirty per cent thought the EC compounded Britain's problems, compared with 22 per cent who did not.

Northerners were the most committed Europeans, with 82 per cent saying they would like to work on the Continent. Dr David Lewis, a psychologist who helped to compile the survey, said: "Maybe this is because they are further away from Europe. Distance lends a certain enchantment."

Frank Wilson, who also helped to compile the survey, said British teenagers were far

more familiar with Europe than previous generations. "They showed an enormous level of knowledge and interest in the Community," he said.

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, a former president of the European Commission, was heartened that so many teenagers wanted to work in Europe. "This suggests that whatever the intricacies of Maastricht there is a groundswell of young people in favour of Europe," he said yesterday. "I have always believed that anti-European feelings in this country come from politicians rather than the public."

The youngsters, who were dubbed the "gentle generation" when they were first interviewed in the spring, are now the "hardy generation" as they cope with the deepening recession. Ten per cent have seen their fathers lose their jobs this year and a fifth of the 17-year-olds interviewed have still not found jobs after leaving school in the summer. Of the four out of five who failed to find work, almost half have gone back to education to "sit out the recession".

Young prefer sport, page 40

## Birthday blues send Floyd's customers running for cover

By ROBIN YOUNG

KEITH Floyd, the television cook known as the guzzling gourmet because of the frequency with which he lifts a wine glass to his lips while cooking, suffers from Christmas birthday syndrome. That, at least, is his excuse for marking his birthday this week by throwing a tantrum in his own pub, hurling glasses at rows of whisky bottles behind the bar, driving customers into the street and walking out on his wife.

Mr Floyd was 49 on December 28. If only he had been born on Christmas day, according to a survey of Who's Who publications, events might have been quite different.

Mr Floyd attributes the origin of his outburst to his belief that his wife Shaughnessy had neglected to give him a birthday present. After recovering some degree of composure at a neighbouring hotel, he said: "I have behaved in an utterly disgusting manner and I am ashamed of myself. I know it sounds childish and ridiculous but when your birthday is a few days after Christmas nobody ever bothers to buy you a birthday present. It is something that has got to me ever since I was a little boy."

Mrs Floyd said yesterday: "I did give Keith four or five presents, including a globe.

When he unwrapped it on Christmas day I told him it was his birthday present. There could have been some confusion on the day."

It had been planned that friends and customers at Mr Floyd's pub, the Malsters Arms at Tuckery near Totnes in Devon, should



Floyd: "I know it sounds childish"

celebrate their host's birthday with oysters and caviar. Mrs Floyd said: "As it happened, he chose to go missing from about 11.30am until 3pm, when he came back and cleared the bar and ordered me out too. There was never an opportunity to lay his birthday treat out."

Mr Floyd vowed yesterday at the Waterman's Arms that he would not return to his wife, though Mrs Floyd

insisted that her husband was forgiven.

He said: "I am fed up with being the bad guy. Everywhere I go people expect me to be the laughing happy person they see on TV with a glass of wine in his hand, but no one can be like that all the time. The other Keith Floyd is not allowed to exist."

People with birthdays close to Christmas frequently complain that their anniversaries are subsumed in the greater festivities, but research has shown that those born on December 25 enjoy enhanced chances of success in life.

A study of 9,000 people in Who's Who publications showed 608 birthday listings for December 25, more than 15 times the rate that would have been expected. High-ranking clergy, such as bishops, were found to be four times more likely to be born on Christmas day than any other date.

If it is any consolation to Mr Floyd, those born on December 28 include the American President Woodrow Wilson (1856), Philip Wilson Steer, the impressionist painter (1860), and Earl "Fatha" Hines, the jazz pianist (1903). He and Mrs Floyd might like to know, too, that December 28 is also the feast day of the Holy Innocents.

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# Lights out at TV-am as thinking pink fails to save success story

**Last exit:** Bruce Gyngell, who transformed TV-am, predicts doom for GMTV

# TVS seeks blessed relief from decade of disaster

TVS suddenly had access to the American networks. But unbeknown to Mr Garward, or City stockbrokers who marked up the TVS share price, the US syndication market had collapsed. Profits warnings from TVS soon followed and by 1990 the City darling of the television industry had lost his £250,000-a-year job in a boardroom coup.

Rudolph Agnew, the former chairman of Consolidated Goldfields, took over. But what he thought would be a surefire way of retaining the licence in an auction favouring the highest cash bidder backfired. A ludicrously high bid of £59.8 million a year was rejected on the ground that it could not sustain the programme promises. Only the intervention of the Rev Robertson can rescue it now.

## Cameras shed light on hidden antiques

A piece of furniture sent for scrap 30 years ago in Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, but saved from the dustcart by a neighbour who needed a table, turns out to be a George II walnut desk worth £6,500. A watercolour landscape of the Middle East is an 1866 work by the poet Edward Lear and worth £6,000.

Leading article, page 17

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and sometimes turbulent history of the stations that go off the air as midnight tolls the end of 1992

## Bitter Thames signs off but rejects talk of closedown

THAMES Television, once the jewel in the crown of the ITV network, ceases broadcasting at midnight tonight after 25 years.

From 10:45pm to 11:55pm, when the rest of the network gives way to ITN for the countdown to the new year and a new era of commercial broadcasting, London viewers will get a chance to wax nostalgic with a montage of clips including *The Naked Civil Servant*, *The World At War*, *The Sweeney*, *Morecambe and Wise* and *Death on the Rock*.

What was initially to be a four-hour finale hosted by Thames's best known stars was, like Thames itself, curtailed by its ITV rivals, adding insult to the injury of losing its licence in last year's blind-bid auction and being denied the chance to launch the nation's fifth terrestrial channel. At least BBC2 rescheduled a tribute to Granada Television, originally planned for tonight. But as champagne corks fly at Carlton, its successor, there will be no wake at the Euston Road offices of Thames at midnight. "Thames didn't die. It will be much more of a celebration of a new beginning," Richard Dunn, its chief executive, said.

He is adamant that his company can look forward to a profitable future, confounding those who questioned its survival as an independent producer. Next year *The Bill*, *Minder*, *Wish You Were Here* and *Mr Bean* will still figure prominently in ITV schedules.

"Even without Channel 5, we believe we may have a business that proves as valuable as owning the London weekday licence and paying the Treasury £33 million [Thames's cash bid] for the privilege," Mr Dunn said. Thames has promised its shareholders a turnover next year of more than £100 million, half of which will come from production. The rest will come from UK Gold, the satellite channel that broadcasts Thames and BBC repeats; Thames International, its distribution arm; Reeves, its American production com-



pany; Teddington Studios, which has attracted business from the BBC and big independent producers; and its investment in Astra, the satellite company that transmits BSkyB's six channels.

Although Thames's future is rosier than many of its rivals, particularly Carlton, might have hoped, a residue of bitterness remains. It was Mr Dunn, as the former ITV Association chairman, who spearheaded a campaign to ameliorate the worst abuses of the franchise auction legislation by securing a "quality threshold" and an "exceptional circumstances" clause, which was meant to be used to award an ITV licence to a lower cash bidder provided its programme plans were of higher quality than those of its deeper-pocketed rivals. Mr Dunn still believes the ITC treated Thames shabbily by not invoking the exceptional circumstances clause to take account of its formidable record, despite a bid £10 million lower than Carlton's £43 million.

Thames's reputation for quality current affairs programmes had been buoyed in 1987 by *Death on the Rock*, the documentary about the SAS shootings of three IRA terrorists in Gibraltar. That controversial hour of television made Mrs Thatcher's blood boil at the time when the government was considering proposals for the blind-bid auction. "I am beyond anger," the former prime minister said about *Death on the Rock*, which had been cleared by the IBA, the Independent Television Commission's regulatory predecessor, and later by an independent enquiry ordered by the government. Most of Mr Dunn's anger is

reserved for the tenacious Michael Green, Carlton's chairman, who has done everything in his power to obtain the lucrative ITV licence since the IBA blocked his £82.5 million bid for Thames in 1985. Poisonous relations between incoming and outgoing companies have always made it difficult to smooth a transition, but nothing in ITV's 37-year history rivals the animosity between Thames and Carlton.

Until two weeks ago, Carlton had been forced to promote its new programmes on LWT after failing to agree a price for advertising on Thames during an acrimonious High Court dispute over what Thames thought was a desultory offer of £6.8 million to buy the rights to hundreds of films in the Thames library. Carlton finally settled out of court and agreed to pay £13.1 million.



Trial run: Fiona Foster and Alastair Stewart preparing for Carlton's nightly news show *London Tonight*

## Party mood fades to black

SADNESS, resignation and anger will predominate in the newsrooms and studios of the four independent television stations that will be swept off air at midnight tonight (Louis Hidalgo writes).

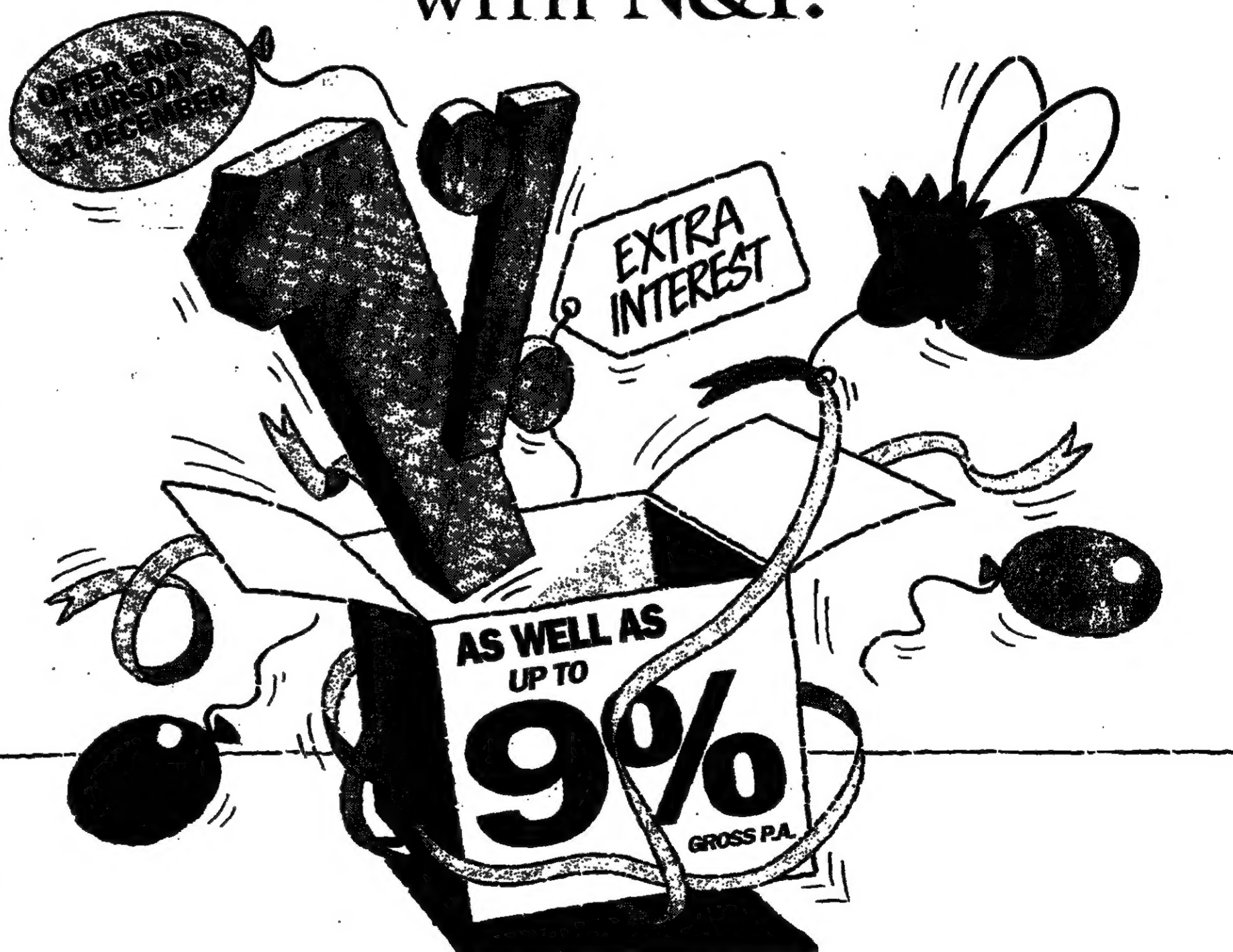
When Thames Television hands over to the ITN newsroom for the last time, there will be only a skeleton staff at its Euston Road studios to mark the passing of 25 years as a broadcaster. "We have already had the farewell parties," said Roy Addison, a Thames spokesman.

At TSW, which hands over to Westcountry TV, those staff that remain will be commiserating in a "fade to black" party. "It suits the mood here: resigned sadness," one employee said.

TV-am is marking its demise in its hallmarked flamboyant style, with a champagne brunch after its last broadcast at 10am. As TVS goes off the air in Southampton, Meridian Broadcasting's staff, many of them former TVS employees, will be celebrating in the studio.

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## Station pays a high price for failed bid

By LOUISE HIDALGO

TELEVISION South West, like TVS, lost its franchise after only ten years as a broadcaster and despite putting in a higher bid than its challenger for the audiences of Cornwall, Devon and west Dorset.

The decision led to one of the most acrimonious legal battles of the franchise round. Westcountry TV, which takes over at midnight, won the franchise with a bid of only £7.82 million, less than half the £16.2 million bid by TSW. The loser appealed, calling the decision "unfair and irrational". TSW took particular offence at the Independent Television Commission's dismissal of its business plan as "imprudent and unrealistic".

The judicial review that followed went all the way to the House of Lords, and lasted months. The battle has cost TSW dear. Only 16 of its 297 staff have been employed by



the new franchise holder. Many of those who have already lost their jobs, and the 100 who will do so after today, have not found employment. The company has yet to find a buyer for its prime site studios in central Plymouth.

TSW's only solace may be the deep uncertainty which has dogged the birth of its successor. Westcountry TV based its bid on the pledge that it would focus on regional programmes. The delay means four of the regional centres it promised will not be opening until late next year.

### The way it isn't



Next Year in Fall Part IV

September 5: The new controller of BBC1, Janet Street-Porter, sets out to establish a reputation for seriousness with the announcement that the 9 O'Clock News will be extended to an hour. "That way, we'll be able to include all the latest in top disco sounds plus a full run-down of the reggae charts," she explains.

September 10: The shortlist for the Booker Prize is condemned for its narrowness. "Where on the list is the Tasmanian woman writer under 35 writing about the effects of the ERM on the Welsh rural community, that's what I'd like to know," complains one critic.

September 25: IAN news-

caster Trevor McDonald hits back at those who suggest he sometimes puts emphasis on the wrong words. "They are talking non-sense," he says. October 2: Lynda La Plante defends her new series, *Brothers in Crime*, in which a squad of retired monks performs ruthless bank robberies while drinking and swearing at one another. "I wanted to draw attention to the plight of retired monks," she claims. "I hope this might prevent them entering a life of crime." October 10: The world of entertainment is shocked at John Osborne's speech as he accepts a new award. "He just said 'thank you' and expressed his gratitude to everyone who'd helped him," said one onlooker. "We were all utterly flabbergasted, and we certainly won't be inviting him again." October 29: This year's Oscar for best movie goes to a film with just one criminal, three rapists and a mass-murder. "It was time to honour a movie for all the family," explains an insider.

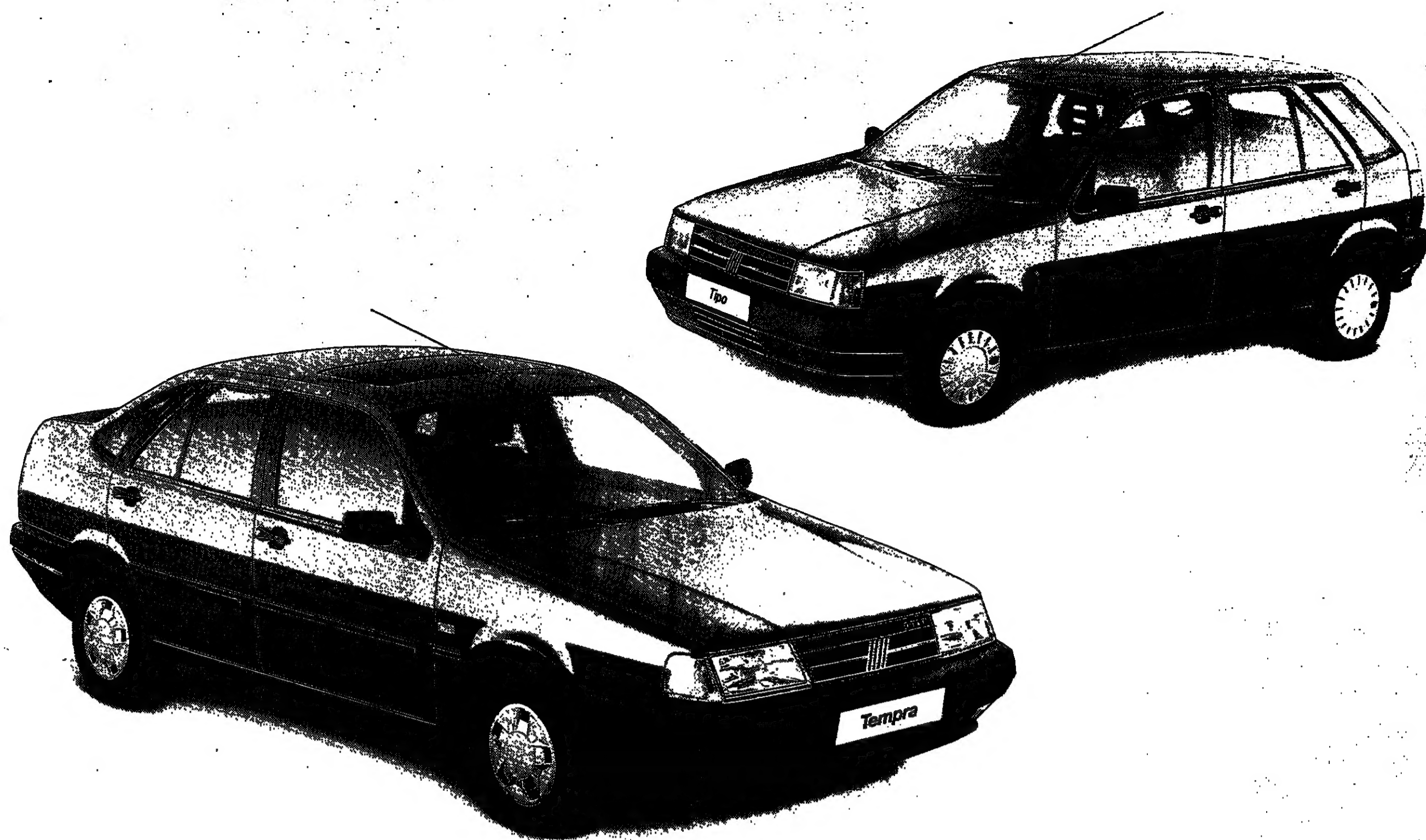
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The single market: life will change for international business, but will the public notice?

## Consumers get raw deal as Eurocrats gloat over triumph

By TOM WALKER

THE imminent arrival of the European single market has had the Brussels Eurocrats crowing and the outgoing British presidency in raptures at its own efforts in tying up the final details. But consumer organisations have refused to join the party, pointing to gaping holes in the market.

After listening to their arguments, it is difficult to see what is in the new market for the consumer, for whom little will be different next year.

Richard Needham, the British trade minister who has chaired the EC's single market council of ministers for the last six months, points to the following achievements:

- Massive reduction in bureaucracy; 60 million fewer official frontier check forms a year, with up to 10 million documents in Britain alone rendered unnecessary.
- British business to benefit by nearly £300 million over the next five years with the elimination of tax and frontier controls.
- The abolition of red and green customs channels.
- The prospect of a liberalised transport market ending high tariffs and poor services.
- Mutual recognition of professional qualifications.
- Removal of national bias in public procurement contracts.



Needham chaired the single-market council

□ Safety standards in food law which allow greater choice and the retention of home favourites, such as the British "banger".

The rub is that many of the claims are only half true and that the most obvious benefits are for businesses doing cross-border trade. Even here there is hardly mass rejoicing. "Nothing will change and the consumer will see nothing different at all," says Brian Young, chief executive of the British glassmaker Pilkington's European headquarters in Brussels.

"More paperwork will disappear and there will be more electronic data; we'll become more of a paperless society. It's become easier to do business in Europe over the years, and January 1 is just another date in that process."

Riders can be added to almost all of Mr Needham's points. A single market in transport is certainly not an immediate prospect. Europe's



SINGLE MARKET

airlines continue to be largely government monopolies well insulated from market forces; and haulage companies will have to wait years before they can compete on an equal footing outside their domestic markets. Opening up public procurement (worth 16 per cent of the EC's annual £4.3 billion GDP) to competition is also a slow process.

The consumer's frustration is summed up by Virginia Graham, of the Union of European Consumers Associations (BEUC): "I think the European Commission can stand accused of misleading advertising."

Unice, the Brussels-based employers' federation, claims that EC border checks help to reduce the average speed of a lorry trip from Scotland to Greece to about 12 mph, "not much better than a stage-coach", says one official, who says transport efficiency will be doubled and that when lorries are permitted to pick up loads in other countries, roads should become freer of traffic. Such claims are hard to believe when it is still the case that in Belgium canals cannot be used on Sundays because the locks are shut.

Unice predicts that by 2000, the single market will be truly complete. It expects European competitors to have emerged to fight the Japanese domination of consumer electronics, but also predicts there will be fewer firms around. Mergers such as that between Volvo and Renault are just the start. The whole heavy engineering industry, once companies actually have to fight for government contracts, will be radically restructured.

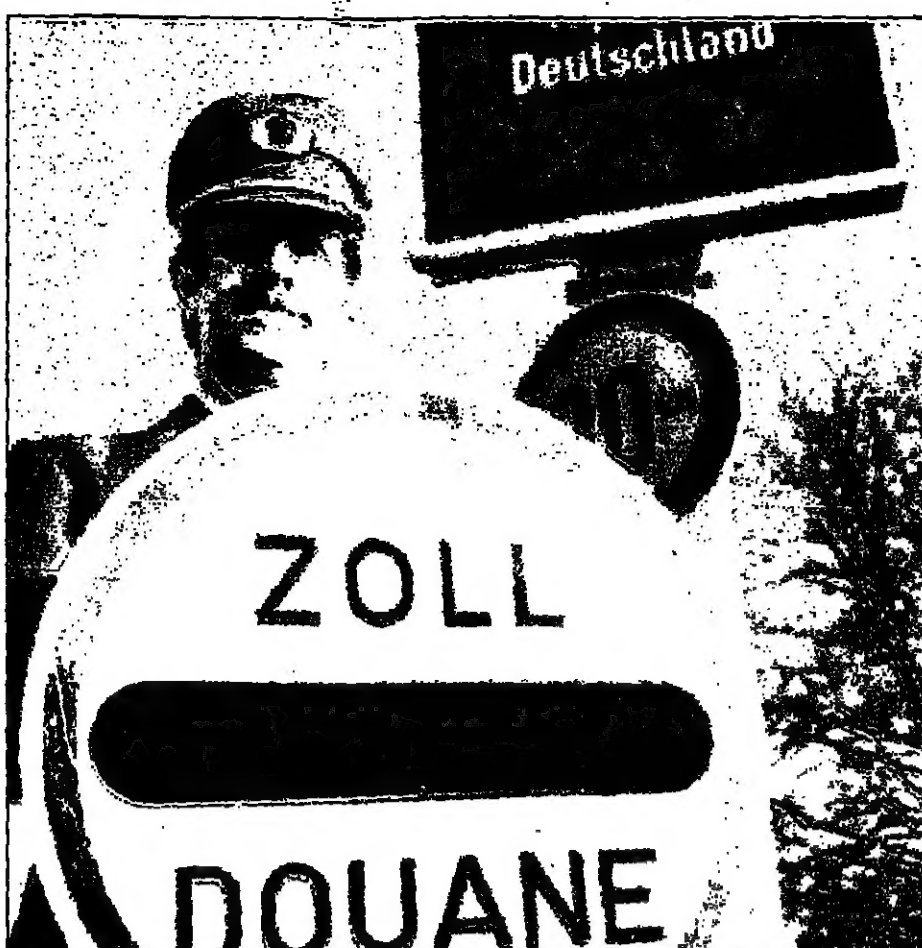
The consumer will have more choice and a more flexible interpretation of what exactly constitutes a "British" product, says Unice. Even if Jaguars are made in American-owned General Motors factories in Germany, they will be thought of as British because the designs will be shaped in Britain. Research and development money will be directed more closely, with industrial firms co-operating on big projects instead of trying to outwit each other over the same gadgets. Industrial development will follow the Japanese model.

Unice and Commission officials predict that government as well as business will be deregulated. They expect the economic impetus of the single market to lead to increasing regionalisation in Europe and a resurgence of

minority languages and local government.

Increasing economic freedom should help Europe achieve the federal goals of Maastricht. These same officials claim that between 1985 and 1990, the single market programme helped to create 15 million jobs in Europe as firms raced one another to make alliances and acquisitions, and third-country companies, notably Japanese, set up EC operations.

The single market has sparked panic headlines in Tokyo and New York, where fears of "fortress Europe" have risen again. Opinion polls show that EC citizens do not necessarily see the connection between establishing a single market and a politically federal Europe. But then neither did Margaret Thatcher, a profound Euro-skeptic who always supported the 1993 single market programme.



Signing off: a German customs officer heralds the single market by removing checkpoint warnings for motorists on the French/German frontier

## Sir Leon thwarted by a cartel too far

THE Consumers in the European Community Group reckon there is a 15 per cent chance of a single EC market in cars developing by 1995. Surveys by consumer groups pointing to price differentials of up to 40 per cent on the same models across the EC are already well documented, and certainly consumers will find few changes in the EC from tomorrow.

The car industry has proved a cartel too far for Sir Leon Brittan, the competition policy commissioner, who has left it with a few well-meaning codes of conduct but hardly a final *dénouement*. The system of exclusive dealerships, otherwise known as cartels, will continue until 1995 and beyond if makers can prove that price differentials are down to about 12 per cent.

One plus point is that at least new models should come to market quicker under a new single EC approval system that replaces the system of getting 12 different clearance certificates for each new car part. But even this remains voluntary until 1997.

Increased harmonisation of

cars will lead to some small changes on the EC's roads. The familiar sight of French cars with yellow headlights will disappear, replaced by cheaper white headlights. Catalytic converters will be obligatory on all new cars from January 1, and licence plates will be more standardised.

Japanese cars will still have restricted access to the EC market, with an overall EC quota replacing national quotas. BEUC, the union of European consumers organisations, predicts a shortfall of small and medium-sized Japanese cars, as Tokyo takes up most of its quota with the more expensive executive models.

Tariffs on a medium-sized Japanese car in Britain are estimated at about £2,000. Free access is not expected until the end of the decade. Buying a car abroad will be made no easier, although the industry has agreed to publish comparative prices of models across the EC twice yearly, beginning in May.

## EC laws cook up few surprises on shelves

THE many years of wrangling over prawn cocktail crisps, Bath buns and the like have taken their toll of the EC's food legislation, which will yield few surprises for the consumer from tomorrow.

Because of national governments' resistance to Brussels' wider ideas on harmonisation, supermarket shelves will be stocked with familiar produce from familiar sources, for the most part

labelled in the familiar way. Proposals on food hygiene, labelling and the use of additives are all incomplete for the moment. Instead, food will simply have to meet national or minimum EC standards.

Consumer groups are wary of even these proposals reaching the statute book. BEUC, the union of European consumers associations, has said that if the present text on additives in food is adopted, some countries may be forced to accept certain additives for the first time. In the absence of any EC agreement on how to label goods, BEUC says that "consumers will be especially vulnerable in the single market".

Consumer groups have also long complained about the costs of the Common Agricul-

tural Policy, which are passed on to the consumer in an extra £18 a week in taxes and food bills. "There will, unfortunately, be no change to this wasteful, inefficient and regressive policy on January 1," BEUC notes.

The consumer's ultimate saviour in the food sector could be the European Court of Justice, which has consistently argued that as long as a food is correctly labelled, it should be allowed across barriers. It has already established, for example, that Italy cannot block imports of pasta made of soft wheat rather than the classic durum wheat as long as the type of wheat is listed on the packet.

To meet French demands on the protection of foods, notably cheeses, EC law now records 32 cheeses that have *appellation d'origine contrôlée*. Roquefort must come from Roquefort, but a generic term such as Camembert has only limited protection. The Germans or the Dutch can produce Camembert, but not, for example, Camembert de Normandie, which must be from Normandy.

Another EC safeguard on food quality is that a product can be made anywhere, but only according to a specific recipe. That rule even extends to describing whether a tomato is grown outdoors.

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# Why the Serbian generals do not want a wider war



Boutros Ghali: starting to put on war-paint

WHEN even such normally placid characters as Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, start to put on war-paint, it is time to sit up and take notice. The mood of the international political class has swung decisively behind some form of armed intervention in former Yugoslavia.

The spur is not the daily horror of Bosnia — which has been burning for eight months, after all — but the idea that the fighting will spread elsewhere, igniting a Balkan and possibly European war. The core issues tend to get lost amid such feverish chatter. The first questions are: Is the war likely to spread? Do intelligence reports, political or military, really indicate that the Serbian leadership, or Serbian warlords, are preparing for such a step? The second matter to be addressed is how far military intervention could prevent such a general Balkan war.

*The West has misread Serb motives, writes Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent. The conflict will be confined to former Yugoslavia*



It is never possible to rule out the irrational as a factor in Balkan politics. But Serbian behaviour over the past 18 months has been guided by a consistent plan to create a Greater Serbia to replace the shell of Yugoslavia. That prompted the war against Croatia and the grabbing of a third of its territory last year. The vision is also propelling Serbian warfare in Bosnia.

There may be differences of opinion about the details — for example, which ports should be seized to give a sea outlet to the future Serbian state — but the blueprint is essentially the same. It is not at all clear, however, that Serbia has territorial ambitions in Macedonia. Certainly there would be a terrible war if all interested parties — Bulgaria, Greece and Albania — were sucked into Serbian-inspired fighting there. But the nightmare scenario is not the most obvious one.

Kosovo, Serbia's southern province, is rightly regarded as a flashpoint since it strikes such a deep emotional chord for Serbs. Any threat, real or imagined, to the Serbian shrines there would certainly prompt Belgrade to send in troops. But again there are no immediate signs that Serbia is planning to do that. The army is already overstretched in Bosnia to such an extent that the Bosnian Muslims have been able to scratch back some captured and "ethnically cleansed" villages right next to the Serbian frontier.

The most likely evolution of the war is to the north, not the south. For the Croats are determined to win back the land they lost last year and have told the UN protection force that they would like to leave Croatia by March. This time the Croatian army is ready for a much tougher fight. They have armed up and are well trained. Even if Bosnia is sliced up between Serbs and Croats, the Serbs will have to police their territory in Bosnia. The Serbian army may well thus enter the spring with two active battle fronts. That suggests the war will not spread outside the frontiers of former Yugoslavia.

The Serbian ultra-nationalists would like to continue expanding and, in their characteristic phrase, "make order" in the Sanjak — divided between Serbs and Muslims — or Kosovo. But the ambitions of Belgrade's generals do not yet extend to a Balkan war, or even a limited war with a weak power like Albania.

The fears of a wider war may thus have been exaggerated in the West. Sensible precautions — a large UN monitoring force in Macedonia, for one — can be taken but the focus should remain on brokering a peace between Serbs and Croats in a way that does not completely betray the interests of the Bosnian Serbs.

There is a case for armed intervention to reimpose the territorial integrity of Bosnia to enforce a peace while political solutions are worked out and to deter further Serbian aggression. But the case for intervention is not being put with any regard to military or political logic.

Not one politician is willing publicly to commit a large contingent of ground troops. Warren Zimmerman, the US State Department specialist for refugee problems, said yesterday that both the Bush and the Clinton administrations had "essentially ruled out the use of ground force".

Douglas Hurd, in a *Daily Telegraph* article, said that even non-interventionists were now considering the use of force against Serbia. But he then went on to confirm that nobody was willing to use ground force. He also dismissed air strikes as an "easy" option. It is difficult to see what kind of armed force Mr Hurd is contemplating. It may well be that Britain, won over to the "no-fly" zone policy, is dressing up that option as a display of Western resolve.

For sure, the "no-fly" zone will be quite useful in challenging Serbian military power. It might even encourage the Bosnian Muslims — who are now reportedly massing south of Sarajevo, their besieged capital — to launch their long-awaited counter-offensive.

None the less, there is a discordance between politicians who are threatening a force actually available, and a level of force needed to achieve certain limited political objectives. President Bush, for example, has threatened to move military force against Serbia should it repress ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. That is his line in the sand. But anybody who knows anything about the Serbian psyche can see that the ultimatum is a declaration of war against Serbia. If that is what America is really considering, it does not appear to have told its allies. It would be a truly historical war, the first to be fought without ground troops.

## Belgrade says UN has only hours to stop Muslims' offensive

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

PRESIDENT COSIC of Yugoslavia yesterday gave a warning that the United Nations had only hours to stop a Muslim offensive to break the siege of Sarajevo or he could not be responsible for the consequences. His implicit threat of Yugoslav army intervention in Bosnia came despite reports from the besieged Bosnian capital which indicated that no offensive was taking place and that fighting was no heavier than usual.

In Belgrade, Milan Panic, deposed as prime minister by parliament on Tuesday, refused to resign, saying that he had not been replaced constitutionally and that he would continue to work until he was.

In a letter to Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, Mr Cosic alleged that "Muslim forces have launched a general offensive from the broader Sarajevo area and especially from Mount Igman". He said: "Unless your intervention in the next few hours proves to be fruitful, we shall be unable to assume any responsibility for the inevitable consequences and this will undoubtedly paralyse our joint endeavours at ending the war." His statement came after Yugoslav military chiefs

had issued a warning that if the survival of Serbs in Bosnia were threatened then the Yugoslav army would intervene. On Tuesday, Mr Cosic chaired a meeting of Yugoslavia's supreme defence council, which ordered that unspecified measures be taken "in keeping with the present situation in Yugoslavia's immediate surroundings".

One measure is certainly the free transit of Bosnian Serb troops and equipment across Yugoslav territory. On Tuesday afternoon, tanks, armoured personnel carriers and soldiers entered Bosnia from the Yugoslav town of Ljubovija after having apparently driven down the Yugoslav bank of the Drina river from the Bosnian town of Zvornik.

Mr Panic said that only President Cosic had the authority to replace him. He accused his opponents of telling "horrendous monstrous lies" against him. He also said that the move, inspired by Vojislav Seselj, the extreme nationalist, "reels of Nazi Germany and the Jews. If we do not stop it now, we shall pay a high price later."

Parliament named Radoje Kontic, Mr Panic's deputy, as the new prime minister. In five months in office, Mr Panic has had no power to enforce his will, so insisting on staying in office for another week or two is unlikely to make any difference to the political scene in Serbia. Even if police try to evict him from his office, little is likely to change as Mr Panic was unable to do anything when the Yugoslav federal police were unceremoniously bundled out of their offices by their Serbian counterparts.

Mr Panic's move can only embarrass President Cosic. Last night Mr Panic claimed that he had the president's support but there was no confirmation of this from Mr Cosic.

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## Whiz-kid who rose to dictate destiny

BY TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN

VOJISLAV Seselj, the extreme Serbian nationalist leader whose party was the real victor in Serbia's election, yesterday warned the West that it faced "a new Vietnam" if it intervened militarily in Bosnia. Mr Seselj should be listened to, as Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, has pointed out, the man is consistent, and now as leader of the second largest party in Serbia he can be expected to wield immense power in the months to come.

On Tuesday, Mr Seselj marshalled the Yugoslav parliament to depose Milan Panic, the prime minister, and used the occasion to present himself as the great defender of Serbian interests, a man worthy of the title *Vojvoda*, or duke. A Bosnian Serb from Sarajevo, Mr Seselj was considered an intellectual whiz-kid when he became the youngest ever PhD in Yugoslavia. His thesis subjects were "Nations in arms in the classics of Marxism" and "The political essence of militarism and Fascism."

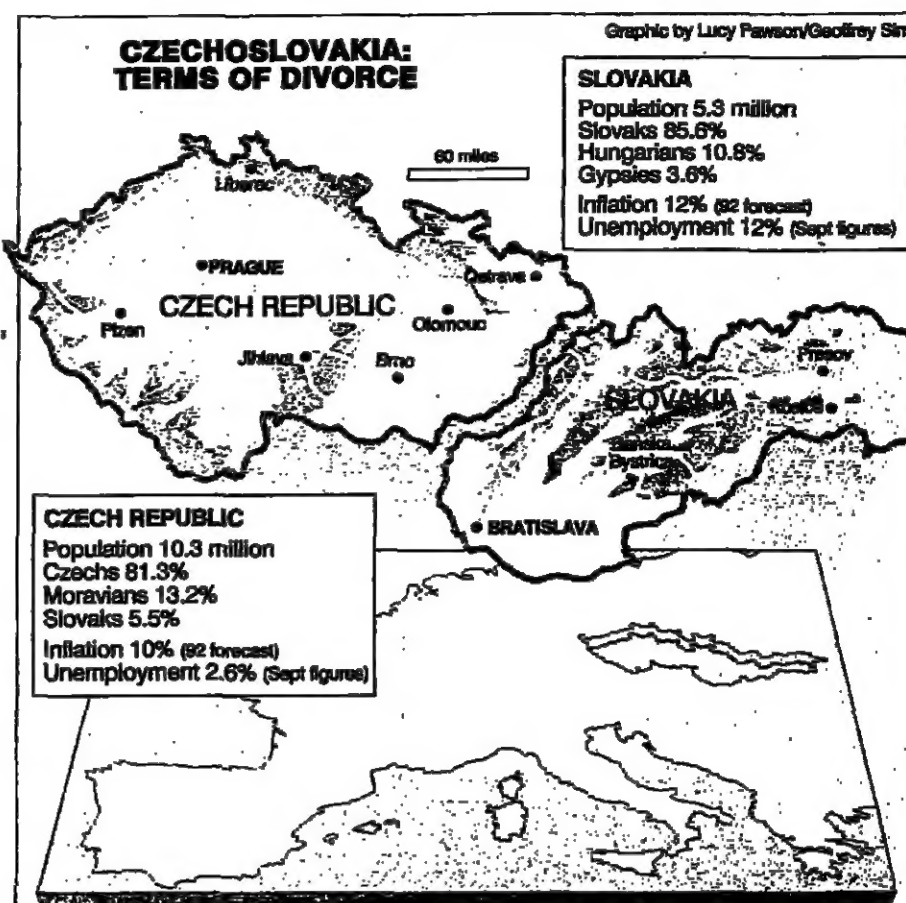
In the 1980s the young academic quickly ran into trouble when he began accusing leading Bosnian politicians of "pan-Islamism". He also said many of his Muslim university colleagues were members of secret nationalist organisations. Mr Seselj was dismissed from his university post and jailed.

On his release, Mr Seselj came to Belgrade where he had been adopted as a cause célèbre. Today most of his erstwhile supporters accuse his violent followers of acting like Hitler's brown shirts. In the past two years, Mr Seselj's rise has been little short of phenomenal. From the fringes of political life, he has become one of the most powerful men in Serbia.

Mr Seselj's party militia has been accused of involvement in the deaths of 3,000 Muslims in Brcko in northern Bosnia in the spring and of many atrocities in Croatia. A decade ago, a Bosnian Muslim intellectual accused him of being "aggressive, paranoid and pathologically destructive". Serbia waits to see.

## Lack of consent sours break-up

*Sadness is the dominant feeling as two new states are born, writes Roger Boyes*



### 1. DIVIDED COMMUNITIES

Some towns and villages will be cut down the middle, dividing communities and families. Although four custom houses are being built, there is as yet no agreement on border checkpoints. Villagers might have to use a passport to go shopping.

### 2. ECONOMY

Both countries will temporarily keep the same currency. But how should the currency be split, at what value and when? The Czechs fear imported inflation from Slovakia. Should the country's assets be divided on a ratio of two to one, reflecting population numbers? Slovak banks are believed to

have placed assets in Czech banks. Who takes responsibility for national debt?

### 3. NATIONALITY

Who uses the Czechoslovak national flag? The Czechs want to use it, but the Slovaks oppose this. And who will sing the national anthem? Many people will cross the new border. 30,000 Slovaks have already applied for Czech nationality. While Slovakia will permit dual citizenship, the Czech republic will not. There are an estimated 300,000 mixed marriages.

### 4. ARMED FORCES

Who gets what? Slovakia anticipates getting 20 MIG-29s even though most of the airbases are in the Czech republic. Who gets which part of the army?

Moravia; perhaps buy small apartments there, so that they can eventually opt for Czech citizenship. Some 20,000 Slovaks, unable to find work in the tank factory at Martin, commute every day to Ostrava, the coal and steel centre of the Czech Lands.

But the malaise is not confined to Slovakia. Ostravian and other Moravian companies are having problems competing against cheaper Polish and Ukrainian coal imports and it is only a matter of time before this chunk of Czech industry is wound down.

Difficult times are ahead then for both new states. The assumption is that the Czechs will, of the two, be better off. Rapid privatisation is already changing the face of Prague and other Czech towns. There is a natural market — protector even — in Germany, which borders the Czech Lands: some even joke that Bohemia will become the new "East Germany".

That is not much of a joke. There is real concern about the future of the Czech identity which is only barely concealed in the debate about the name to be given to

the Czech part of Czechoslovakia. Vaclav Havel — who will probably be elected president of the Czech Lands next month — has spotted the problem: Dr Klaus has not. What is the Czech national interest? Can it really pose as the successor state to Czechoslovakia? The new Czech flag looks remarkably similar to the Czechoslovak one. The betting is that Czechs will feel rather lost for some years, like an accident victim who has had a leg amputated. The nerves will continue to twitch but there will be nothing down below.

The Slovaks have no identity problems. Slovakia is the culmination of a thousand years of poetry and myth making about an independent Slovakia. For a while, this will carry the Slovaks along. There are some quite sensible economic plans, including big incentives for foreign investors, and even some modest moves towards privatisation.

If things start to go wrong, if independence loses its charm, then the Slovak leadership could well make scapegoats of the 600,000-strong Hungarian minority. Relations are already tense between the two communities. The West should not therefore lose interest in Slovakia. It needs investment, help in building democratic institutions, economic advice — and close monitoring to ensure that independence does not lead to a rebirth of authoritarian rule. Prague: Czech customs officers shot dead a German woman, 19, when the driver of a car in which she was a passenger knocked down an officer at Svoboda, northwestern Czechoslovakia. (Reuters)

Letters, page 17

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Opposition says Bonn has broken asylum pact

Bonn: The opposition Social Democrats in Germany, stung by the resignation from the party of Günter Grass, the author, have accused the government of bad faith over plans for limiting the number of asylum-seekers (Michael Binyon writes).

Gerhard Schröder, the Social Democrat (SPD) prime minister of Lower Saxony, accused Rudolf Seiters, the interior minister, of breaking the hard-won agreement on December 6, under which the party would support a constitutional change to restrict the right of asylum. He said in a letter to the SPD negotiator that Bonn was undermining compromises over the status of victims of civil war, application procedures and the turning away of asylum-seekers from the borders.

Herr Seiters last night rejected the charges, and has already presented a draft proposal for the new laws to his Christian Democrat party. The dispute is likely to hold up the much-debated clampdown on asylum-seekers, now entering Germany at a rate of almost 500,000 a year.

### Reverse thrust

Tokyo: Japan is planning to build a test centre for fighter jet engines as the first step towards domestic production of military and civilian aircraft. The country has been reluctant to develop aviation technology since the second world war. (Reuters)

### Barter stops

Peking: China, longtime ally and trading partner of North Korea, said it is ending decades of barter trade. Last year China was the largest trading partner of North Korea, with £413 million in two-way business. (AP)

### Rabbani picked

Kabul: The interim Afghan president, Burhanuddin Rabbani, was elected head of state for the next two years in a ballot in which he was the sole candidate. He was hailed as the first elected Mujahideen leader of the Islamic revolutionary state. (Reuters)

### American freed

Zamboanga: Muslim bandits near his southern Philippines town released unharmed an American missionary, Gerald Fraszczak, after 68 days' captivity. Mr Fraszczak, 55, was freed in exchange for rice and sunglasses. (Reuters)

### Berlin ruling

Berlin: The Berlin regional high court ruled that Erich Honecker, the former East German leader who has cancer, must stay in jail although he will probably die before the end of his trial for killings along East Germany's border with the West. (Reuters)

### Angolan attack

Lisbon: A spokesman for Unita, the Angolan opposition movement, accused government forces of attacking two northwestern provincial capitals, Nalatando and Caxito, which it seized after rejecting defeat in elections three months ago. (Reuters)

### Before the beak

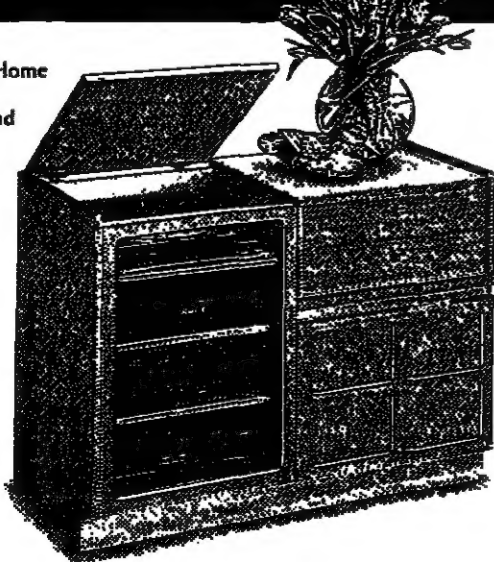
Amsterdam: A Dutch judge ordered a man to muzzle his cockerel or pay his neighbour 500 guilders (£180) every time that the bird crows. The judge ruled that the cock greeted the day with a cry "in excess of the normal proportions". (Reuters)

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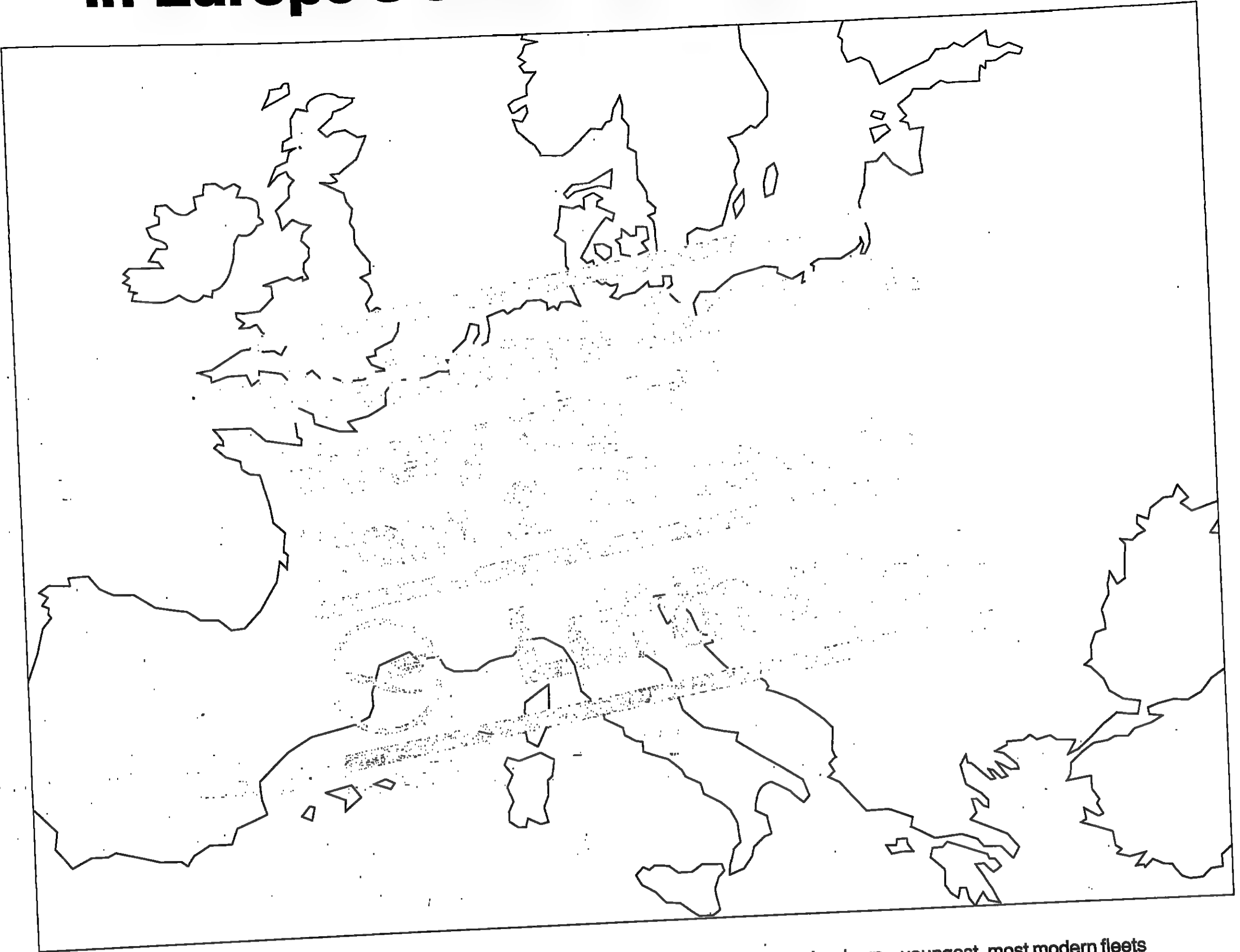
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# Final days of action win Bush quiet acceptance at home

■ Hardly a voice has been raised against the president's stance. But the mood may change when the body bags return

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush arrives in Somalia tonight to spend New Year's day with American troops. At the weekend, he will ensure his place in the history books by holding a summit with President Yeltsin of Russia in the Black Sea resort of Sochi and signing a landmark nuclear arms treaty.

While most outgoing American presidents spend their final days in office packing their papers and books, saying goodbye to aides and reminiscing about their presidency, Mr Bush has taken an active role. As American troops stepped up security in Mogadishu to ensure Mr Bush's safety, the president, who will stop over in Saudi Arabia to meet King Fahd before going flying on to Somalia, said in Washington that he had to show "the concern all Americans feel for Somalia".

In the past few weeks, Mr Bush has launched an armed relief effort in the Horn of Africa and threatened military intervention in the Balkans. As the war drums have been pounded in the Oval Office, the absence of any significant public criticism of the president's actions has been notable.

Fifty years ago, when America was on the brink of being forced by Japanese aggression to enter the second world war, Franklin Roosevelt had only to



Bush: hardening policy of intervention

mention the need to prepare for conflict to provoke frenzied opposition from Democrat and Republican alike. In anti-war vigils outside the White House the cry went up: "Why die for Danzig?" When the news broke earlier this week that President Bush had sent a diplomatic note warning the Serb leaders that a further spread of the Balkan conflict would provoke military retaliation by America, it hardly caused a leaf to stir on the streets of Washington. In the far Midwest or Deep South, the recruiting grounds for the men who would be the ones to fight in any conflict that broke out, no cry of "why die for Kosovo?" was heard. After an

election campaign that saw the defeat of a "foreign policy president" and his replacement by a Democrat promising to focus on America's domestic ills rather than on the problems of far-flung places, the seeming quiet acceptance of American "humanitarian intervention" in Somalia and the Bush administration's hardening stance, with the support of Bill Clinton, the president-elect, toward Belgrade, is striking. The "brigades" of Patrick Buchanan supporters, who cheered so loudly during the primary campaign the America First rhetoric of Mr Bush's challenger for the Republican presidential nomination, seem to have vanished, as have the deficit-cutters who warmed to Ross Perot's criticism of the foreign policy accomplishments of Mr Bush.

Insularity and isolationism were at their post-1945 height this summer in America, as strong as they were in 1940 when FDR sought to prepare Americans for the second world war. Yet a mere two months after the election, and the opinion formers and the mass of people whose opinion they try to form, have not reacted in a way that most foreign journalists would have predicted. Admittedly, Christmas obscured for many ordinary Americans the news of overseas troubles and alarms but, even so, festive preoccupations and shopping mall visits are not enough to explain the absence of intense public questioning of the Bush doctrine of intervention.

Although the flags are not being waved with abandon yet over the prospect of "our boys" marching off to war, there is abroad in America an obvious pride, mixed with irritation at the pusillanimous Europeans, that it is only America which is capable, militarily and politically, to act as the architect of the post-Cold war world.

Already, the call to humanitarian arms that the Bush administration has been developing in its dying days has attracted an academic as well as a journalistic following, and in the unlikelyst of quarters. The theological faculties have been humming with debate about just and unjust wars. Father Hehir, a professor at the Harvard Divinity School, has announced he is to teach next term a course entitled "The use of force: political and moral criteria".

Of course, if or when the body bags start arriving back home from the Horn of Africa or the Balkans, the mood might change, leaving Mr Clinton brooding on the ironies of fate.

Summit at Sochi, page 1

## Arms proliferation confronts Clinton

BY DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE Start 2 agreement may bolster the reputation of a retiring American president and prop up a shaky Russian leader but it opens a new era of potential instability in world nuclear weaponry.

To make the deal stick, President Yeltsin must move quickly to ratification before his hardline opponents wake up to the fact that they are fast losing one of Russia's few remaining icons of international power and prestige. Under the agreement, Russia's stockpile of warheads would be 3,000 as against 3,500 for America in the year 2003.

In essence, two countries which no longer had much interest in attacking each other, under their present leaders, have yielded two-thirds of their nuclear capability to do so, and Mr Bush has only to collect his going-away present. President Yeltsin's own base against the hardliners may well have been strengthened but his tenure remains uncertain and any successor will still have a massive capability at his command.

In Bill Clinton's in-tray is the more pressing problem of proliferation as the rush to get nuclear expertise and capability at bargain-basement prices gathers pace. The president-elect's immediate problem will be with Ukraine — which is demanding \$1.5 billion (£1 billion) for the dismantling of the nuclear weaponry on its territory — and countries such as Libya and Iran who are determined to cash in on expertise in Russia, the former Soviet states and China.

David Bolton, the director of the Royal United Services Institute, said: "If the Americans pay it will take seven years to dismantle the weapons, and if not it could take

ten years — and a lot can happen in that time." He sees the gesture by Washington and Moscow as a signal to the rest of the world that "we're doing our best by reducing our weaponry by two-thirds", encouraging others to follow suit.

But ensuring non-proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction will require intrusive inspection regimes and tough sanctions against those who do not comply, said Mr Bolton. He added that, with a nuclear-armed Russia on its periphery, Europe must retain some form of ballistic nuclear defence, and Europe might well explore the sort of mutual defence arrangement against such weapons now being negotiated between Russia and America. Beyond that the West, and Britain, must retain a minimum nuclear deterrent against the Saddam Hussein of the world. That would have to be aircraft-borne — and visible "on the BBC and Cable News Network", he said.

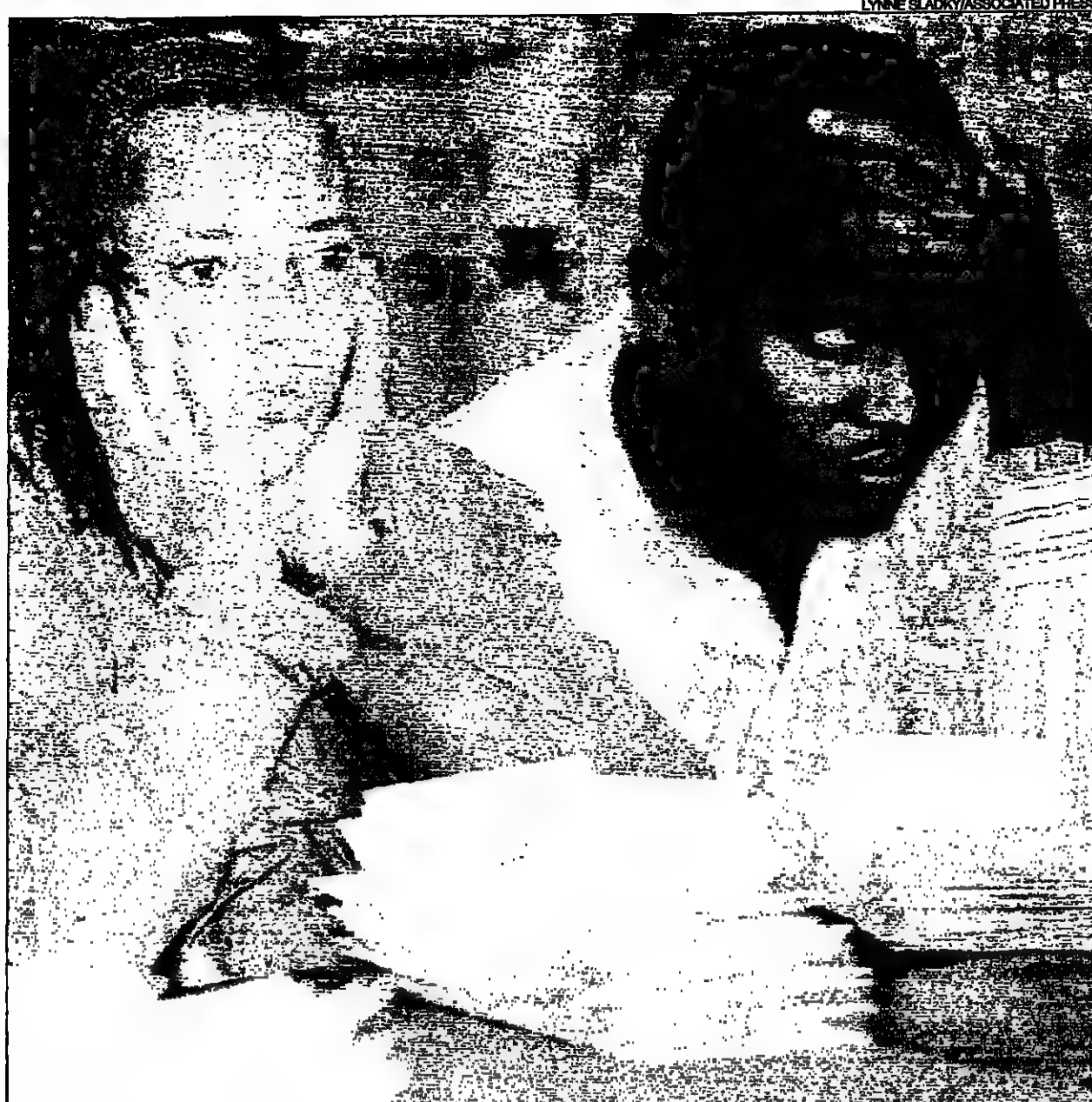
□ Moscow: Russia said yesterday it was tightening controls on exports of materials and equipment with possible nuclear uses to prevent the destabilising spread of atomic technology. Anatoli Krasikov, a presidential spokesman, said the government was introducing a system of licences to regulate the export of nuclear-related substances and technology. Mr Krasikov said: "Russia wants to adhere strictly to its obligations on non-proliferation of nuclear technology." The export controls affect eight categories of exports, covering not only nuclear equipment but also a range of "dual purpose" items, with nuclear and non-nuclear uses. (Reuters)

## BABRI MOSQUE DEMONSTRATION

Rally and march to protest against the destruction of the Babri Mosque and the ongoing oppression of Muslims in India.

London, Sunday January 3, 1993  
Rally: Hyde Park, 11.30am  
March to Indian High Commission:  
leaving Hyde Park 1pm

The Babri Mosque Action Committee UK  
(Supported by all major Muslim organisations)  
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081 572 8960/021 773 0019/ 0203 444504/  
0924 451857/0860 259289 (mobile)



Democratic hull: Kenyan poll officials in Nairobi taking a break from counting ballot papers for the presidential election. As first results showed a clear lead for President Moi, the opposition alleged there had been vote-rigging

## US imposes Mogadishu clampdown

FROM KEUTER  
IN MOGADISHU

AMERICAN troops searched vehicles in Mogadishu for arms and tightened their grip on the airport yesterday in a clampdown on gun rule before President Bush visits the battered Somali capital today.

They said weapons would be banished from the southern port of Kismayu and took control of a key road bridge near Mogadishu. Military police stopped vehicles at checkpoints in the city centre. At the airport, where Mr Bush will land, soldiers set up machinegun posts and positioned an armoured assault vehicle outside the gates.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Ritter said: "We are taking every precaution needed to ensure that this is a safe and successful visit for our Commander-in-Chief."

Shootings and looting are still common in the devastated capital, despite a peace deal last week between the city's two main warlords and the presence of the US-led humanitarian intervention force. Mr Bush is due to spend the night on an amphibious assault ship and visit the towns of Baidoa and Badi Dogle.

## Opposition issues warning to Moi over 'rigged' poll

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

TWO of Kenya's leading opposition parties yesterday issued a warning that they would bring down any government which took power in rigged elections as results showed a clear lead for President Moi.

Jacob Mutua, legal adviser to the Democratic party, said that his party was considering withdrawal from the elections because of what he called widespread vote-rigging. "We may take other and more effective methods of making sure that Kanu [the ruling Kenya African National Union] cannot run the country if they take power in this way," Mr Mutua said.

Oginga Odinga, leader of the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy-Kenya, said that he was also considering withdrawal and would be meeting to discuss the move with Mwai Kibaki, the Democratic party leader. The two parties also alleged that the other main opposition group, Ford-Asili (Original), led by Kenneth Matiba, was the beneficiary of Kanu's alleged attempts to rig yesterday's ballot.

Foreign observers said that they had been shocked by widespread irregularities at

polling stations and counting centres all over the country. They have yet to make an official statement.

In the central Nairobi constituency of Starehe, an election official was attacked by a mob when he attempted to bring a box of ballot books and loose ballot papers into the counting centre at the Jamhuri High School. Many of the books had been stamped with the electoral council's seal which meant they could be marked and entered into the count.

One person was killed and three injured in Mombasa when paramilitary police fired on a crowd which had surged around a car they suspected of bringing in extra ballots late on Tuesday night. There were reports of violence in cities throughout the country.

Police also fired into a group of demonstrators in Kisumu, on the shores of Lake Victoria, when a crowd had gathered to protest at slow counting of their votes and accused election officials of packing ballot boxes with votes for Kanu and Mr Moi.

Results from 34 of the 198 constituencies were in by late afternoon yesterday. Mr Moi was in the lead with 342,930

votes to 266,853 for Mr Matiba, his nearest rival.

Mr Matiba was a long-time political detainee under Mr Moi. He was released last year after he suffered a stroke as a result of torture and spent 11 months being treated in London.

He had a strong showing in Western Province, traditional heartland of the Luhya tribe who support Martin Shikuku, his vice-presidential running mate, and appears to have been winning cross-tribal support. Both Mr Matiba and Mr Kibaki are Kikuyu but the division of the Kikuyu vote among the two presidential hopefuls did not appear to have damaged Mr Matiba.

□ Accra: The National Democratic Congress of president-elect Jerry Rawlings is set to sweep Ghana's parliamentary election, winning 89 of 92 constituencies declared so far, according to electoral authorities. The four main opposition parties shunned the election. Ghana's first parliamentary poll since 1979, because of alleged vote-rigging in last month's presidential vote. The pro-government National Convention Party won two seats and an independent took one. (Reuters)

## Britain hands over EC reins with honour salvaged

Money traders are poised to put another spoke in the wheels of the Community's rotating presidency as the UK bows out. George Brock, European Editor writes

mons, but that came as no surprise to governments elsewhere in Europe. Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, rode out pressure to punish Mr Major for delaying ratification until the Danes held a second referendum. Pierre Berégovoy, France's prime minister, dispatched a swift note all but disowning one of his over-excited ministers who

had attacked the UK presidency as a catastrophe. M Berégovoy's government had squeaked through its own Maastricht referendum only weeks beforehand. Herr Kohl saw that the British government kept changing its mind because the Commons destabilised Mr Major and Mr Hurd's authority. Both government and Euro-sceptics

walk on shaky ground: government whips are still not sure of their majority and the sceptics have no agreed alternative to Maastricht.

But the money traders dealt the presidency even harder blows. The autumn of 1992 will be recalled for the near-disintegration of the exchange rate mechanism, which enters 1993 still perforated by the cross-fire in the money markets. Just before sterling and the Italian lira were pushed out of the ERM, finance ministers meeting under Norman Lamont's jaundiced chairmanship failed to reconcile their differences over ex-

change and interest rates. The Chancellor's evident lack of remorse at the shambles and pleasure at sterling's devaluation was as damaging to Britain's diplomatic leverage inside the EC as any of Baroness Thatcher's most notorious outbursts of the past.

Britain's diplomatic weakness would not matter if the government was certain that the ERM would collapse and be replaced by no other mechanism for ironing out the fluctuations between Europe's strongest and weakest currencies. Mr Major and Mr Hurd know that while overinflated hopes of a European single

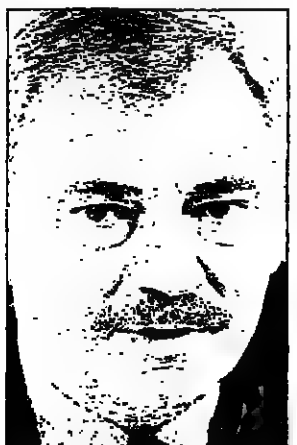
currency have been dealt a colossal blow by the recession, ratification debates and the flux in the markets. But they also know that hopes of co-ordinating — if not necessarily merging — the continent's currencies burn strong.

The Edinburgh summit simply by-passed the issue. By the end of April, a report by experts on the operation of the ERM will be ready for finance ministers. That will coincide with the probable opening of the second Maastricht referendum campaign in Denmark.

Market challenge, page 7  
Leading article, page 17

## Danish extrovert prepares for the presidency

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT  
IN COPENHAGEN



Ellemann-Jensen: is confident of 'Yes' vote

UFFE Ellemann-Jensen, Denmark's foreign minister, is confident his country will approve the Maastricht treaty next year. "I know I wasn't too good at predicting the result last time, but frankly I expect a big 'Yes' now," Mr Ellemann-Jensen said. "All the opinion polls back me up and seven of parliament's eight parties are behind Denmark's opt-out deal on Maastricht."

He believes that those who voted to approve the treaty last time but saw their cause rejected will stick with their convictions. "Denmark will be there when things move, but Maastricht-style European union will not come in this century. If Denmark voted 'No' again it would have to leave the EC for good, and if the United Kingdom decided to follow suit, both countries would be out of the

European mainstream ... and that would be a disaster."

When Denmark takes over the six-month presidency of the European Community from Britain at midnight tonight and with it the job of introducing the single market, much of the burden will fall on the extrovert Mr Ellemann-Jensen, 51, a political science graduate from Copenhagen university, who worked as a television news presenter for five years before briefly becoming editor-in-chief of the business daily *Børsen* in 1975. He entered politics in 1977 and became leader of the Liberal party in 1984. He has held the foreign affairs portfolio for longer than anyone since the second world war.

"I hope when the Danish presidency is over we will have dealt with all the heaviest issues including enlargement, initiating membership negotiations with Sweden, Finland and Austria, so

that we can strengthen, improve and give more balance to the Community."

"On Yugoslavia, we must not give up trying to find a diplomatic and political solution. Limited military action by the West may be necessary to protect the humanitarian aid effort but I do not believe a full military intervention is practically possible. It might spark a full-scale war in the Balkans."

Mr Ellemann-Jensen also wants to create greater openness in EC affairs and plans to start television transmissions of the meetings of the EC Council of Ministers. "It is important to take the myths and mystery out of the EC. It's going to be dull stuff but if it helps to demystify the workings of the EC, so much the better. It was fears of bureaucracy and ignorance of the functioning of the EC that sparked the Danish 'No' and the French 'near no' to Maastricht."

## US allows two novel ways of treating cancer

By Nick Nuttall  
TECHNOLOGY  
CORRESPONDENT

TWO novel forms of cancer treatment, one based on a bark extract and one on genetic engineering, have been given approval by the US government, it was disclosed yesterday.

Taxol, a substance extracted from the rare Pacific yew tree, *Taxus brevifolia*, has been licensed for use in the treatment of ovarian cancer. Its approval is likely to bolster research in Britain, where scientists are attempting to make similar drugs from the leaves of the English yew.

The federal Food and Drug Administration also approved the use of genetically modified cells to treat a terminally ill woman with a brain tumour. The researchers, based at the San Diego regional cancer centre in California, are expected to begin the pioneering treatment on Monday.

The decision to approve Taxol marks a 30-year crusade by Monroe Wall, chief scientist at the Research Triangle Institute in Raleigh, North Carolina. Research shows that Taxol binds to cancer cells blocking their ability to reproduce. Bristol Myers Squibb, makers of the drug, yesterday announced they are seeking approval of its use in Britain and other European countries.

The decision, which could also pave the way for Taxol to be used on cancers of the lung, neck and head, offers hope to British researchers at Leicester University and the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology studying the English yew. This species, *Taxus baccata*, contains a substance called Baccatin III. It has no cancer fighting properties but is similar to Taxol. Research indicates that it can be chemically turned into Taxol, which could greatly increase its availability. Up to 20 other promising compounds are also in the leaves, which could lead to more cancer drugs.

The treatment of cancer with genetically engineered cells also marks a shift in policy by the US government, and the National Institutes of Health. Novel medicines, treatment methods, normal, after a lengthy approval process, but in this case approval was given on compassionate grounds.

The patient's treatment, developed by Ivor Royston, senior director at the institute, involves taking cells called fibroblasts from the woman's skin and inserting the gene for the production of interleukin-2, a protein that is critical in triggering production of the body's cancer-killing T-cells. Millions of these modified cells will be reproduced and injected back into the patient.

It is hoped that the modified cells will go to the sites of the brain tumour, and the cancer cells will be attacked. Doctors will monitor the progress of the patient using brain scans.



# Cuban pilot's mass defection plot took a year of planning

By DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AERO Caribbean Flight 360 was meant to be a quick hop from Havana to the popular tourist resort of Varadero. The passengers were apparent holidaymakers heading for the beach.

But 20 minutes after take-off Carlos Cancio, the pilot, coolly radioed to Havana control tower that the plane had been hijacked and was headed for Miami. He neglected to mention that of the 53 people on the plane, 48 were hijackers — and that he was one of them.

"I'm free!" yelled Señor Cancio as he waved from the open door of the Soviet-made Antonov-26 twin-engine turbo prop soon after touching down at Miami airport. "I feel very happy... to have been able to escape the communist system of Cuba," he added. He brought with him his wife, two children and his future daughter-in-law. "It was a very complex manoeuvre, a year in the planning," he said.

Details of the mass defection remained sketchy yesterday as the "hijackers" were being kept at an immigration detention centre while their requests for political asylum were being processed.

"We kept it very hermetic. We were very decided," said Raúl Ginebra, one of the passengers, who telephoned a local newspaper from Miami airport. He said that all but five people on the plane

were in on the plan. The five — including the co-pilot, his wife and son, a state security agent, and an air-hostess — have all asked to be returned to Cuba.

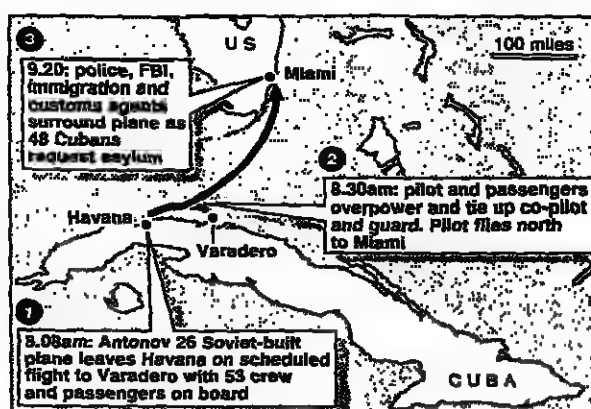
Señor Cancio apparently arranged for the other 47 passengers to be placed on a waiting list for the regular scheduled Flight 360 to Varadero. According to Señor Ginebra, the pilot cancelled the flight saying there was a mechanical fault. But later, he rescheduled the flight and arranged to board the passengers on the waiting list.

Soon after take-off, Señor Cancio persuaded his co-pilot to swap his seat with a flight engineer who wanted some cockpit experience. To assist in the ruse, Señor Cancio had invited the co-pilot to bring his family on the crowded flight. After the co-pilot joined his wife in the passenger seats, the "hijackers" pounced. The co-pilot was overpowered and tied up. Simultaneously, a uniformed state security agent — all Cuban flights are accompanied by a security guard — was drugged with an ether-soaked rag, bound hand and foot and bundled into a seat at the back of the plane.

Before arriving in Miami, Señor Cancio and the co-pilot had a brief scuffle on the tarmac before they were separated by police who took the co-pilot away handcuffed. When the passengers emerged they were clearly delighted to be in Miami, waving victory signs and smiling broadly. They were later taken to the Krome immigration centre on the outskirts of Miami where they were met by officials



Hijacked: the Soviet-made Antonov-26 at Miami



from the anti-Castro Cuban American National Foundation (CANF). The passengers were expected to be released by immigration authorities last night to friends and relatives under the auspices of "Operation Exodus," a programme run by CANF to sponsor Cuban emigrants. "They are very happy," said Mario Miranda of CANF. "It's going to be a good New Year's for them," he said. The Cuban government ac-

cused the defectors of committing "a terrorist act", which they claim was the product of an American policy that encourages flight from Cuba. This is not the first time Cubans have defected by air. In 1969 a Cuban air force lieutenant flew his MIG-17 to Miami. Then in 1987 the deputy defence minister defected to Florida with his family aboard a private plane. Early this year 34 Cubans fled on a Cubana Airlines helicopter and two weeks ago a former air force major, who defected in 1991, made a dramatic landing and take-off on a main road linking Havana and Varadero to pick up his family. It is not clear how the passengers were able to board a flight normally reserved for foreign tourists. Cubans require special permission to board local and international flights, which are tightly controlled by the ministry of interior. Pilots are also banned from carrying their families on board. Large bribes for the local airport officials involved in boarding the flight may have been involved. American officials say they are investigating possible charges of air piracy, but that seems highly unlikely. "When most people on board want to go to the same destination, it's hard to call it a hijacking," said Michael Sheehan, a spokesman for US Customs.



Unscheduled arrival: Carlos Cancio, the pilot of the hijacked Cuban airliner, waving at Miami airport as he is led away by American federal investigators

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### UN envoy breaks off Jerusalem mission

Jerusalem: James Jonah, the UN under secretary, broke off his mediation mission to the Middle East after four days of shuttle diplomacy failed to resolve the plight of 415 Palestinian detainees trapped in southern Lebanon (Richard Beeson writes).

After a final round of inconclusive talks with Israeli leaders, Mr Jonah will have to tell Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, that neither Israel nor Lebanon appear willing to back down in their two-week standoff.

Dr Boutros Ghali suggested in Geneva after a meeting with Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, that one compromise might be to send the men back to the Israeli occupied territories, where they could be interned or charged if they have committed any crimes. But Mr Jonah, in his brief meetings with Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, and Shimon Peres, foreign minister, was told categorically that Israel was not prepared to back down from its widely condemned decision to expel the Palestinians.

### Collor ruling

Rio de Janeiro: The Brazilian Senate voted to strip Fernando Collor de Mello, the former president, of his political rights until 2001. Senator Collor resigned on Tuesday, hoping to head off a trial on corruption charges and salvage his political career.

### Rights trimmed

Kuala Lumpur: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Malaysia's prime minister, stepped up a campaign to curb sultans' privileges, announcing proposals to remove their constitutional right to pardon themselves and royalty from criminal charges. (Reuters)

### Security tighter

Delhi: Security has been increased at the Taj Mahal and other Mogul monuments in northern India to protect them from possible attack by Hindu militants. Visitors to the Taj were being checked by metal detectors.

Bernard Levin, page 16

### Leader chosen

Sofia: Bulgaria's parliament approved Lyuben Berov, President Zhelev's economic adviser, as prime minister. Mr Berov, 67, who has no party affiliation, was nominated by the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, which represents ethnic Turks.

### Changing sides

Kuala Lumpur: A woman has identified her husband, a Malaysian police inspector, as the killer shot in a bank raid after killing a security guard. "He did not recognise Chan Abdullah as he had shaved off his moustache." (Reuters)



Smith: ruled during anthrax epidemic

### Rhodesian military 'used germ warfare'

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS are to investigate claims that the largest ever anthrax epidemic was started by Rhodesian security forces as an act of biological war against black insurgents between 1978 and 1980.

More than 10,000 people caught anthrax in the epidemic, and at least 182 died. An American doctor, Meryl Nass, has studied the outbreak and concludes that there are suspicious circumstances which suggest the anthrax spores were spread deliberately, probably from the air.

Anthrax is spread by organisms which can persist in soil for many years. Cattle and sheep catch it by eating contaminated pastures, and people by handling or eating the meat.

Anthrax had never been common in Rhodesia, but in 1979, when the civil war between Ian Smith's rebel white government and black nationalists was at its height, there was a sudden increase in human cases to more than 4,000, with a rise the next year to 6,736. Case numbers then declined, but because of the persistence of spores in the ground, anthrax is much commoner in Zimbabwe than it used to be.

Dr Nass presents a number of reasons for believing the epidemic was man-made. It appeared in several places almost at the same time, she says, instead of spreading from a single focus as such epidemics usually do. Many of the cases appeared in areas of the country where it had never been seen before, and the epidemic was confined almost entirely to black areas.

No whites ever caught the disease, and only four small outbreaks occurred on white farms. But a third of the Tribal Trust Lands, where blacks farmed, were affected.

The most plausible explanation, she says, is that the spores were dropped from the air by the Rhodesian military. Dr Nass says that, to settle the question, the spores still in the soil could be matched against known strains. Spores could be sought in places where they are not normally found, such as roofs of houses. "Such a study has been sanctioned by the Zimbabwe government," she said yesterday.

# THE B&Q

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## Ten tips towards a new year of majesty



### Anthony Holden offers the Queen some gentle advice for survival in 1993

■ **1 No more self-pity.** In her "annus horribilis" speech, and again in her Christmas broadcast, the Queen sought to elicit public sympathy for the many woes which befall her family in 1992. They were as nothing, however, to the woes endured by so many of her subjects: from unemployment, homelessness, bankruptcy and/or repossession of their homes, to trouble making ends meet. Few other British divorcees, moreover, are cushioned by so much wealth.

■ **2 Treat the Princess of Wales properly.** The princess should not be seen as a troublesome daughter-in-law, she is the most popular woman in the world, embarking on an ambitious international career, eager to overtake the Princess of Wales in the gravitas stakes. She wields huge influence over the degree of public affection for the monarchy. The royal family misuses her at its peril.

■ **3 Take the Prince of Wales in hand.** A strong-minded major-domo should be imposed upon the prince's private office to override his whims, harness his undoubted qualities, and bring to his public work the sharper focus which would give it some clear purpose.

■ **4 Reorganise the royal finances.** Whatever taxes the Queen agrees to pay, she is bound to be criticised over those she will continue to avoid, probably capital gains, and certainly inheritance tax. No other British citizen is excused these taxes.

The solution is a Royal Commission to assess the monarchy's public and private wealth, and clarify the distinction between the two. The private assets should then be fully taxed, like any other family's, and the public wealth converted to a charitable trust from which the monarchy is financed, thus dispensing with its public subsidy. The extent of all Crown assets, as opposed to the Queen's, should also be made public.

■ **5 Banish the rest of the family.** If the "lesser" royals are to be axed from the Civil List, they should also be encouraged to return to private life and earn their own living. For the Queen to finance them — from her own inflation-proof public subsidy — is a

continuation of the Civil List under another guise. The Princess Royal, for instance, could become a properly salaried president for Save the Children, with the Duke of York living off his Naval salary, Prince Edward, like any other well-educated young

### Does she want her family to be thought of as ordinary people?

man, should be finding for himself in the job market. ■ **6 Re-read Walter Bagehot.** The celebrated "constitutional historian" (in truth a rather snobbish journalist) defended the monarchy not for itself, but as a way of blinding *hot potli* to the true workings of the British establishment. "The Monarchy", he wrote, "gives a vast strength to the entire Constitution, by enlisting on its behalf the credulous obedience of enormous masses."

Many of Bagehot's precepts contain home truths the Queen should still find useful (not just the old saw about letting in "daylight on magic", which should now be banned from use by all newspaper leader writers). Hide this one from Prince Charles: "The only fit material for a constitutional king is a prince who begins early to reign... The case is worse when he comes to the throne old or middle-aged. He is then unfit to rule."

■ **7 Disestablish the Church of England.** It's in a frightful mess, anyway. The Queen should sever her connections with it, and free herself and Prince Charles from the embarrassment of being its Supreme Head. Most churchmen say the title doesn't mean much, anyway. Let Carey & Co defend their own faith.

■ **8 No more tourist industry.** The Queen should try to persuade the royal family's apologists to stop trotting out

tourism as the best defence of the institution of monarchy. Is there really no better argument for the hereditary principle?

The other day I asked an American if her fellow countrymen would still go to watch the Changing of the Guard if there were a president in the palace rather than a monarch. She said no. But what, I asked, if it were President Thatcher? She said yes.

■ **9 Make up your mind.** Does the Queen want the royal family to be thought of as ordinary people like the rest of us — or doesn't she? There are pros and cons to either course.

Most ordinary families go through all those marital strains, leading to divorces and remarriages, which excite unusual (and perhaps unfair) interest when they happen to royalty. But ordinary people also pay taxes imposed by law.

Ordinary people don't have private yachts, trains and planes. Why not hand *Britannia* over to the navy, and set an example by travelling on regular trains and planes? Otherwise, however much tax the Queen pays, the royal family is still going to look like a subsidised elite quite out of touch with the times.

The real problem, of course, is that the Queen's subjects can't sort this one out, either. Half the time they want to see the royals as ordinary people like themselves, with similar problems; the other half they want them on a pedestal, symbolising all their aspirations.

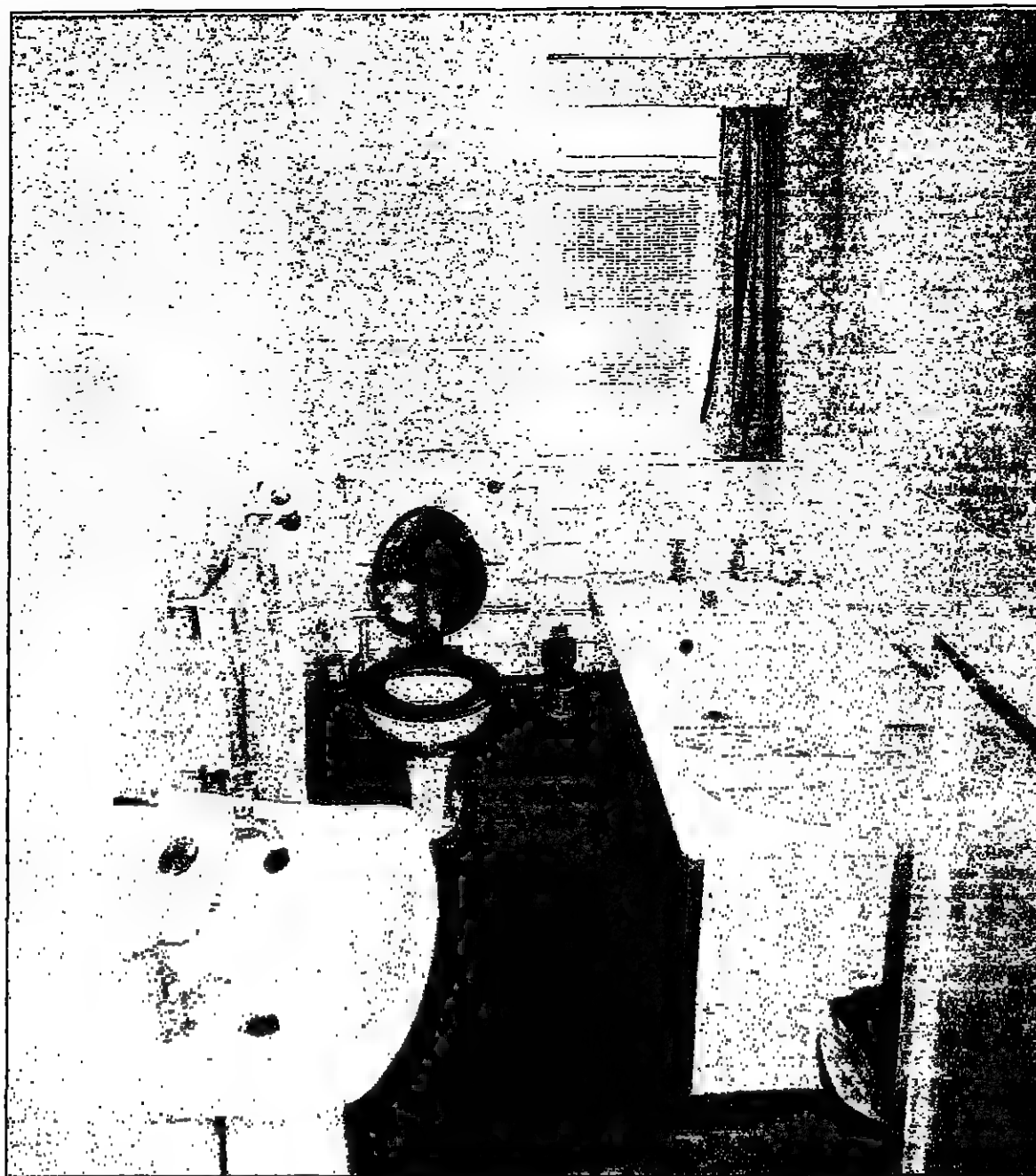
Bagehot was right: they need to be told what to think. It is time for the Queen to take a lead on this one.

■ **10 Study the Maastricht Treaty.** If the Queen were to scan the small print of Maastricht, she would see that it reduces her to a mere citizen of Europe, with a vote in the European elections — the thin end, surely, of the republican wedge.

The monarchy's constitutional mandate rests on the readiness of the British people to remain subjects rather than citizens. The main lesson of 1992 — the year that deference died — is that their patience may be running out faster than the Queen or her courtiers advisers yet realise.

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## Michael Dynes explodes 20 years of European myth-making



From the European apocryphal: lavatories, cucumbers and lawnmowers have all featured in stories about Eurotunacies which have made the headlines

## Brussels finds a mything link

Undaunted by the claim that lies can travel half way around the world before truth has had time to put its boots on, officials in Brussels have created a "Euromyth" unit charged with stamping out those silly but entertaining tales about bureaucrats on the rampage.

Equipped with a staff of one, the new unit, formed last month, plans to take aim at the newspaper editors and broadcasters who have kept us amused for years with tales, frequently unfounded or misrepresented, about European Commission attempts to ban dogs in pubs, abolish sawdust on butcher's floors, and prohibit the sale of round cheeses.

Europe's new myth finder general is, however, likely to find himself facing something of a labour of Sisyphus. Euromyth-making, while particularly prolific in Britain, is by no means a British monopoly. The Commission was, for example, recently accused of trying to abolish the Spanish *siesta* — the accent over the "i" in *siesta*. But the British have come to adore the sport,

and are unlikely to give it up without a struggle. Commission officials, tired of being the butt of British humour, say the unit was created out of exasperation.

"We just got fed up with all these Eurolunacies circulating in the media unchallenged," says Robert Elphick, an EC spokesman in London. "We have allowed the Community to be kicked about for years, and now we have decided to kick back."

One of the first indications of a change in attitude came in a speech given in November by Douglas Hurd, the foreign Secretary. Mr Hurd pointed out that the Commission "is often used as a whipping boy for the sins of others". Indeed, officials in local government,

the public utilities, and Whitehall, have been known to "blame unpopular regulations on some imaginary edict from Brussels", Mr Hurd said. Previously, the Commission had been very complacent about challenging such tales. Moreover, government ministers were not themselves above blaming unpopular measures on new EC directives. No one seemed particularly troubled that the Community had, in the process, become a bit of a laughing stock. But Denmark's decision to reject the Maastricht treaty changed all that.

In future, media claims that "barmy Brussels bureaucrats" have embarked on this or that act of folly will be dispatched to the myth finder general's office, where they will be checked out. A brief summary of the allegation, along with an explanation of the proposal or legislation in question, can then be sent out to the Community's offices throughout Europe. They will then suggest clarification. The initiative has the enthusiastic backing of Jacques Delors, the Commission president, who has long complained of what he describes as Europe's *deficit d'information*. But it is doubtful whether the myth finder general will ever have much effect.

A similar initiative was launched by the Commission's London office shortly after Britain's accession to the Community in 1973. In those days, our newspapers were filled

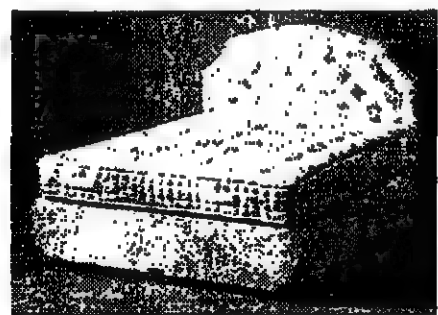
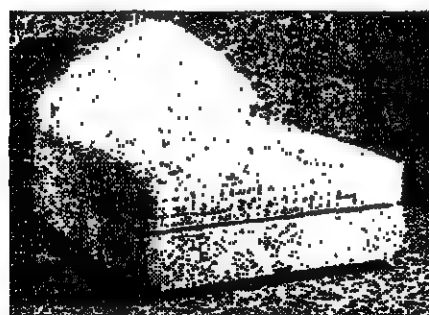
with lurid tales about Brussels trying to phase out district nurses because they did not exist on the Continent, ban the use of King Edward potatoes because of the threat of potato wart disease, and stop the sale of Bramley apples because their curious shapes and sizes did not meet EC standards.

Newspaper editors had a field day with stories about malevolent bureaucrats plotting to stop the sale of doorstep milk, and prevent boys and girls from taking up paper rounds. Both of these hoary tales are still in circulation today, two decades later, proving beyond doubt that the facts are rarely allowed to get in the way of a good story.

Once a rumour gets under way, however (such as the claim that Brussels was trying to harmonise male and female lavatories) journalists have no choice but to follow it up. There is always the chance that it might be true. Below are some recent Euro-stories, almost all of which have appeared in the public prints. They simply illustrate the difficulties of sorting myth from reality in Brussels.

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- 1 New EC hygiene regulations require fishermen to wear hair nets while working. True/False
- 2 Under recent single market legislation, Christmas trees can be traded across frontiers only if they are symmetrical in shape with regularly spaced needles. True/False
- 3 According to the recent EC directive on jams, carrots must be classified as fruit. True/False
- 4 Because of new safety regulations, charity shops such as Oxfam and Age Concern are prohibited from selling second-hand toys. True/False
- 5 Under new EC health rules for milk products, traditional French cheeses such as unpasteurised Camembert will be banned. True/False
- 6 Brussels tried to ban traditional methods of hanging turkey, pheasant and other game birds, complete with gentry-decomposing entrails, on the grounds that they were unhygienic. True/False
- 7 Dangerous products, including inflammable foam-filled furniture, can legally be sold in Britain from January 1. True/False
- 8 Brussels tried to ban the sale of prawn cocktail and tomato ketchup flavoured crisps. True/False

- 1 False. A new directive, effective from January 1, does impose stringent hygiene standards on staff who process and package fish and on workers aboard factory vessels. All have to wear suitable head cover to prevent hair contaminating the fish. But this does not mean wearing hair nets.
- 2 False. There are no EC regulations standardising Christmas trees. The Western Europe Christmas Tree Growers' Association is, however, attempting to introduce new categories for marketing purposes.
- 3 True. But only for the purposes of making jam. This is so that the Portuguese, who traditionally make jam from carrots, can continue the practice.
- 4 False. All toys placed on the market for the first time must display the new EC mark, signifying that safety standards have been complied with but second hand toys are excluded from the directive.
- 5 False. All raw milk, heat-

### TRUE OR FALSE?

- 9 Fishing boats are required to carry a minimum stock of 200 condoms to ensure that fishermen have "safe sex". True/False
- 10 Brussels attempted to introduce a blank tape levy on audio and video tapes. True/False
- 11 Boys and girls will be forced to give up their paper rounds because of plans by Brussels to introduce a new directive protecting young people at work. True/False
- 12 British oak cannot be used to make Euro furniture because Commission officials have ruled that it is too knotty. True/False
- 13 New regulations lay down the permissible degree of curve and depth of colour for cucumbers. True/False
- 14 Because of new food hygiene regulations, the Royal Navy's tradition of stirring Christmas pudding mixture with wooden oars will be illegal. True/False



Euro target: will charity shops be the target of new safety legislation?

### ANSWERS

- 1 False. A new directive, effective from January 1, does impose stringent hygiene standards on staff who process and package fish and on workers aboard factory vessels. All have to wear suitable head cover to prevent hair contaminating the fish. But this does not mean wearing hair nets.
- 2 False. There are no EC regulations standardising Christmas trees. The Western Europe Christmas Tree Growers' Association is, however, attempting to introduce new categories for marketing purposes.
- 3 True. But only for the purposes of making jam. This is so that the Portuguese, who traditionally make jam from carrots, can continue the practice.
- 4 False. All toys placed on the market for the first time must display the new EC mark, signifying that safety standards have been complied with but second hand toys are excluded from the directive.
- 5 False. All raw milk, heat-treated milk, and milk-based products are required to meet new hygiene standards in an effort to eliminate outbreaks of listeria and salmonella, or face being withdrawn. There is no attempt to ban them per se.
- 6 True. Brussels originally tried to prohibit the practice. Because of pressure from Britain, however, the bureaucrats were forced to modify their position, and eventually allow the practice of "delayed evisceration" of turkey, pheasant and other game birds. Paper rounds will not be affected.
- 7 False. The sale of all products, from fireworks to pushchairs, must comply with EC or national safety requirements. Any product which fails to meet the regulations can legally be sent back to its country of origin.
- 8 False. During negotiations on the directive covering the use of additives in food, Britain failed to notify the Commission of the particular additive needed to manufacture all flavoured crisps but it was later added to the list.
- 9 False. There is no EC directive containing such an obligation.
- 10 True. The proposal was made in an attempt to compensate copyright holders for unauthorised home taping. Britain insisted, however, that the levy would discriminate against the blind and other groups reliant on blank tapes, and the proposal was dropped.
- 11 False. A limit of 15 hours a week and three hours a day will be imposed on young people seeking work while in full-time education. Such work must be outside school hours. Paper rounds will not be affected.
- 12 False. No draft directive, directive or regulation from Brussels has ever sought to prohibit the use of British oak in furniture.
- 13 True. Cucumbers must

- 15 New Eurosnow rules will ban skiing where the depth of snow is less than 20 centimetres. True/False
- 16 Brussels is trying to abolish milkmen and the tradition of doorstep milk deliveries. True/False
- 17 New Eurotool rules require all newly-installed cisterns in Britain to flush 7.5 litres of water. True/False
- 18 Bath buns, York ham, Cheddar cheese, and Brussels sprouts, will respectively have to come from Bath, York, Cheddar, and Brussels. True/False
- 19 Brussels has banned the manufacture of lawnmowers which do not meet specified noise emission standards. True/False
- 20 New European safety regulations require firemen to replace their traditional yellow protective trousers with EC-approved blue trousers. True/False
- 21 Brussels is drafting new regulations to decentralise the musical scale. This will involve the creation of a new department to re-score all existing classical music. Some pieces may have to be extended or cut to fit. Work is expected to begin with Mozart. The project will take 15 years, and should provide work for thousands of unemployed musicians. True/False

- as a plot by Brussels to stamp out doorstep milk.
- 17 False. The new regulations, which come into effect on January 1, have been laid down by British water bylaws. They have nothing whatsoever to do with Brussels.
- 18 False. However, the Commission has extended the "appellation contrôlée" system from wine to foodstuffs to protect certain products whose quality or reputation is attributable to a specific location or process.
- 19 True. Common noise emission standards for lawnmowers were introduced in an effort to prevent countries protecting their domestic lawnmower industry with spurious noise standards.
- 20 False. Common standards for fire fighting equipment and clothing are being introduced, but existing equipment and clothing can be used.
- 21 Who knows what myths will be manufactured in 1993?

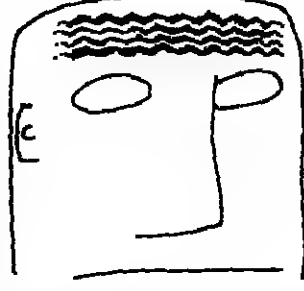


## A sting mostly in the tale

NO DOCTOR in Britain wants to have to add dengue to his or her differential diagnosis when confronted with a patient with a high fever, a rash accompanied by bright red hands and feet, a splitting headache and severe joint pains. But alarmist reports suggesting that the arrival in Britain of the aedes mosquito — which carries the dengue virus from person to person — constitutes just such a danger seem misplaced.

The mosquito larvae have been imported in the stagnant water that collects in the tyres of old cars brought to Britain for reclamation. In the Far East, where aedes is traditionally established, the mosquito also breeds in small pools of water, whether lying in gutters, flower pots or even in holes in the stumps of trees. The mosquito in recent years has spread to Africa, South America, the Caribbean and even North America.

Whereas simple dengue fever, more picturesquely known as breakbone or dandy fever, is



an unpleasant but not usually dangerous experience, children can suffer a more severe form, which can be fatal. This is called dengue haemorrhagic fever, in which the blood-clotting mechanism is damaged, and bleeding can occur in the skin and internal organs.

The risk of infection in Britain is minuscule. We may soon have to bear with the nuisance of being bitten by another variety of mosquito, but there is no danger of dengue fever from this, unless the mosquito has previously bitten a patient suffering from it, which is a highly unlikely event whether in central London or rural Norfolk.

## On the trail of a killer

DR DAVID FOREMAN, from Oxford, and Professor Timothy Oliver, from the Royal London Hospital, have been cast as Morse and Lewis as they attempt to solve one of the greatest medical mysteries of recent times. The problem to be solved is: why did the rate of testicular cancer start to rise at the turn of the century and why has the incidence has nearly doubled in the past 20 years?

Each year, testicular cancer kills 150, mainly young men (for although it can affect any age, most patients are under 45) and is life-threatening to another 1,000.

Professor Oliver said recently that 94 per cent of all cases of malignant disease of the testes treated at the Royal London between 1986 and 1988 had now survived the necessary time for the assumption of a cure. He had every hope that this cure rate would continue to improve as expertise, both in surgery and in the three drugs used — bleomycin, carboplatin, and etoposide — in different combinations, continued to progress.

Thirty years ago, the majority of patients died and even today, the treatment is likely to be more successful



MEDICAL BRIEFING  
Dr Thomas Stuttard

only if started early. Professor Oliver therefore fights a relentless campaign to increase men's awareness of the importance of any change in the size or shape of their testes.

Patients should not necessarily attribute any change in shape to a blow, because often an injury serves to draw attention to a testis already diseased. Nor should they be misled by the presence or absence of pain — testicular tumours can be, but are not invariably, painful.

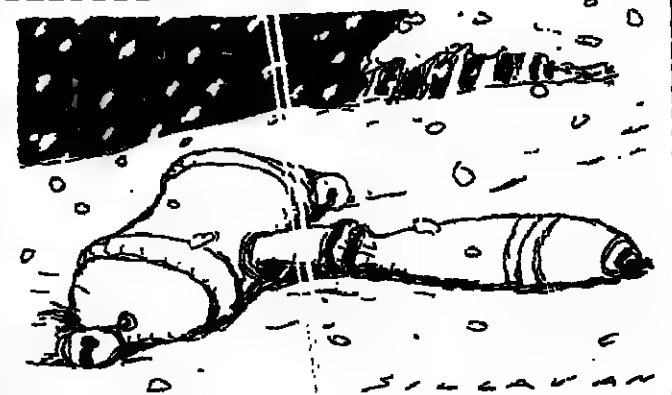
Research into testicular size has led to the discovery of a possible due to the cause of the mystery. Those testicles which develop malignancies are often, before the disease starts, smaller than normal even if not actually atrophied. In some cases, the atrophy has been due to mumps, in some to damage

following an injury or partial twisting, in others to a mal-descended testis. The testes should migrate to the scrotum around birth, but if one is left behind in the abdomen, it has a 20 times greater chance of developing cancer.

The investigating team is working on the theory that a testis which fails to function efficiently because of partial atrophy is spurred on to greater efforts by the over-production of two pituitary hormones, FSH and LH, which control its activity, and it is an excess of these hormones which are responsible for later malignant change.

Anxious young men can forget tight pants as a cause of cancer. They may reduce fertility but have been cleared of the charge of inducing malignant change. Similarly, the sedentary worker who sits all day with his genitals hitched up is now known to be at less risk, provided he exercises daily. Was it all mother's fault? A school of thought blames the mother's hormone balance for their son's later testicular problems.

There is evidence that the mother's hormone levels in pregnancy may be relevant, but it is their level of testosterone, rather than oestrogen, as had previously been thought, which is the key factor.



## Bringing baby out of the cold

HAD two boys not been searching for golf balls on a Nottinghamshire course, "Christopher", the newborn baby abandoned in the frosty undergrowth, would have died of hypothermia.

Babies withstand cold less well than adults as they have a large surface area for their size and reflex systems that in adults can improve heat production and conservation are not yet developed. Babies cannot shiver. Shivering may not seem a vigorous activity, but it

raises heat production fivefold. Babies have to rely on an increased metabolic rate: of the brown fat stored on their upper back to guard against cold. But once this has been used, they are defenceless. The battle may not be won even after the hypothermic baby is placed in an incubator because, as the infant's temperature rises, so does its blood sugar fall, which can result in hypoglycaemia, and possibly coma.

A hypothermic baby's ruddy complexion can easily mislead doctors. Oxygenated, bright-red, stagnant blood suggests health. The best method is to use a low-reading thermometer to take a rectal temperature.

Tonight, millions will eat, drink... and possibly go down with food poisoning. Julia Llewellyn Smith reports on how to avoid a nauseous new year

## When an army marches on your stomach

On Boxing day night half my family was writhing in agony. Those who could not find a lavatory bowl were vomiting into plastic buckets. As my father pathetically put it, "It felt like something rotten inside me was trying to get out of both ends as fast as possible."

None of them had drunk too much and none had flu. We concluded they were victims of the oysters they had all eaten 36 hours earlier in a restaurant where we had gone on Christmas day to give my mother a break. Given that she was up the whole of the following night, armed with a mop and a bottle of disinfectant, it was just as well.

The restaurant said that one member of staff had succumbed, but claimed that it was because the oysters were very rich, rather than contaminated, an improbable excuse to anyone who had witnessed my cousin vomit almost non-stop for eight hours.

All over Britain similar scenes were taking place, as hundreds of people felt the after-effects of seasonal celebrations. According to Dr Ken McGeehan, a locum registrar at the infectious diseases unit at Seacroft Hospital, Leeds,

the festive season sees a rise in reported cases of food poisoning as people gorge themselves on a variety of exotic foods. In addition, "They spend more time than usual at parties and there is more reheating of leftovers. So the chances of infection increase."

Dr McGeehan says. Despite an education programme and legislation to improve general standards of hygiene, 61,462 cases of food poisoning were reported to the public health authorities in 1992, an increase of more than 10,000 on last year. This is in addition to the thousands of cases which were treated at home.

Although most people recover quickly from the experience, with only a few lost pounds to show for it, some elderly people have died from the severe dehydration which can result.

Food poisoning is the result of eating food or drinking water that is contaminated with bacteria, viruses or toxins. The incubation period before a reaction can be as long as 48 hours, but when bacteria such as staphylococcus, which is transmitted during food preparation, are involved, people will feel it almost immediately. This was the probable cause of George Bush's collapse in the middle of a banquet in Japan last January, although he politely attributed his sickness to gastric flu.

According to Dr McGeehan, staphylococcus is the main cause of food poisoning epidemics, which sometimes occur after wedding feasts or any other type of mass banquet, because it grows on warm food and survives reheating.

The organism thought to be responsible for up to 70 per cent of all other cases of food

poisoning is salmonella, which is found in all foods of animal origin: meat, milk and, most notoriously in this country, eggs. The other main offender is campylobacter, which is transmitted by birds pecking at milk bottle tops, and can also be found in contaminated beef and chicken.

The foods with the worst reputation for poisoning are oysters and mussels, although Dr McGeehan says this is undeserved: "All foods carry risks, you cannot single one out as being more dangerous than another." However, the fact that oysters are often served raw means that any bacteria present will not be killed off by cooking, which is when most foods are made safe.

Purification processes usually remove any bacteria from oysters' gut tissue but viruses, which live in the tissue and come from sea water contaminated by sewage, cannot be killed off, although environmental health checks make sure that oysters are bred in water as pure as possible. Raw oysters should be served alive and should have been stored in melting ice. In Southeast Asia, however, all oysters should be avoided, as organ-

isms absorbed by shellfish in that part of the world can paralyse.

British seafood suppliers and restaurateurs are rightly indignant at having to take the blame for every festive bout of sickness, saying that before they point an accusing finger at sufferers should think about how much they had to drink and how many bugs they might have picked up while kissing under the mistletoe the night before.

Some British oyster farmers claim that sickness is usually an allergic reaction, which can be spotted because it will come on suddenly, usually accompanied by a rash. John Bayes, the manager of Seacroft Shellfish in Whitstable, Kent, who sold 30,000 oysters in the week before Christmas, more than double his average weekly figure, says: "My men eat oysters straight off the beach, but they've had enough of them over the years."

Christopher Kerrison, the manager of Colchester Oyster Fisheries, thinks, unsurprisingly perhaps, that the answer is for everyone to eat more oysters. "We ought to eat a few every day to build up our resistance," he says. "We live in a sterile world, increasingly so since American ideas about hygiene were taken up by the EC. We need to build up our antibodies to infection. If we

are too clean we will keel over every time we encounter a bug."

Folklore has it that food poisoning strikes when people eat out but, according to Dr McGeehan, this is not the case. "Logically, if we prepare our food at home, we have a greater say about hygiene. But most bugs are actually contracted in our own kitchens," he says. "They say it must have been something they ate in a restaurant and don't connect it with anything they made themselves. There have been outbreaks from food outlets, but they are uncommon, because the law is so strict."

Nonetheless, revellers who do not want their new year festivities to be blighted are advised to avoid food to which they have reacted badly in the past, along with any dish which may have been reheated, or is undercooked, such as tortillas or beef stroganoff.

People should also beware of buffets or salad bars where food may have been allowed to stand out of the refrigerator for some time.

Cold meats which have been left out in the warm are especially risky, as is anything containing raw eggs. Ideally, food should be screened, to prevent flies, dust and bacteria landing on it, and should not be kept near doors, under roasting pans or in direct sunlight, where it will be subject to temperature change. Other measures include storing meat under a layer of oil, or in a refrigerator.

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Feathered fiend: a blue tit pecks open the top of a bottle of milk, an everyday sight across the country, and a possible carrier of dangerous bacteria

for example, because they are probably not strong enough to cope with any bug lurking there that a healthy child would throw off."


Once the illness is over, a sufferer's thoughts may turn to compensation. According to Rebecca Evans, a barrister with the Consumers' Association, customers poisoned by restaurant food can claim damages. "If you know for certain that it was the food, then the restaurant is in breach of contract. It is obviously negligent to serve contaminated food," she says.

The difficulty lies in providing proof that the food, rather than the wine or a coincidental bug, was the culprit. Restaurants are cagey about food poisoning, many strongly deny that their hygiene or suppliers could be at fault, preferring to blame their customers' lack of sophistication. Marie-Jeanne Collins, who manages Café Fish in central London (not the restaurant at which my family dined), says: "If you are brought up by the sea as I was, you will not get this problem. It has everything to do with your everyday diet. If you only eat certain kinds of foods you will react badly to new foods."

Anyone with a suspected case of poisoning should first get a doctor to ascertain the cause of illness and then contact an environmental health officer through the local council. He or she can then visit the restaurant's kitchens and identify a possible cause. The ideal is to have a sample of the food consumed, whether as a leftover or in its regurgitated state — although Ms Evans admits that someone struck down is unlikely to have the presence of mind to keep a sample of vomit aside.

If the case can be proved, then technically the customer can sue. "It would be a very lengthy and costly business to sue for damages, but with proof on your side you would be in a very strong position to settle out of court," Ms Evans says. "In fact, you could drive a pretty hard bargain."

Even if there is no hard evidence, circumstantial proof — such as everybody in the party falling ill on the same night — should be adequate grounds for a refund and apology. My family is still waiting for news of how, and if, the restaurant intends to compensate us — for the four bottles of disinfectant we got through, and a sleepless night



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In an exclusive interview with Anatole Kaletsky and Peter Riddell the Chancellor maps out his plans

# Lamont's sparkling new year



To tax or not to tax? Lamont outlines his strategy to Kaletsky and Riddell at the Treasury

For people outside the Treasury, 1992 may have seemed like an *annus horribilis* for the British economy, but Norman Lamont has no apologies or regrets. The Chancellor enters the New Year brimming with confidence, both about his own position in John Major's government and about the economic prospects. The main political event of the past year, he feels, was not the government's retreat from the ERM, but its triumph in winning a fourth successive election. In that victory, Mr Lamont believes that his 1992 Budget and his attacks on Labour tax policy played a crucial part, second only to "the factor of John Major himself".

He rejects all speculation about his political future. Asked about reports that he might move from the Treasury in a new year reshuffle, he replied: "I enjoy the job myself and I have not heard of any such speculation. Frankly all these speculations are just made in the media. I've known what the position has been all this time — I've never been in any doubt that I would deliver the Budget."

If Mr Lamont is confident, both about his personal position and about the economy, it is in part because of the Autumn Statement, which he believes did all that was necessary to get an economic recovery finally under way.

"There is every reason to believe that 1993 will be much better than 1992. I would not be surprised if trends in the British economy were better than in some of our European competitors. In Britain, as elsewhere, the real barrier to economic recovery has been a lack of confidence, which was, of course, damaged further by the shock of sterling's suspension from the ERM. But since then, we have taken a number of important steps which I believe have created the right conditions for confidence and growth."

The three-point cut in interest rates and the sharp fall in sterling since Black Wednesday has produced a "very substantial" easing in monetary policy. And with many

mortgages not yet adjusted downwards, "a significant boost to spending power — perhaps two-thirds of the impact — is still in the pipeline." The Autumn Statement also offered help to sectors that had suffered most from recession — housing, construction, and manufacturing. "Those measures were designed to lift confidence and thus to foster growth, and judging by the very warm welcome they received, there is every chance that they will succeed."

But Mr Lamont's bullishness does have its drawbacks. Many businessmen and economists have called for further reductions in interest rates in the new year, yet he seems unconvinced by their pleas. "If monetary demand was plainly too low, and growth of nominal GDP was manifestly too low, then I think we would consider an easing of policy," he said. But what does he mean by "manifestly too low"?

If the economy performs in line with the Treasury's forecasts, which show a 1 per cent recovery next year, will there be any expectation of a change in interest rates? Mr Lamont replies with an emphatic "no". And does he believe that the Autumn Statement measures will prove sufficient for the forecasts to be realised? The Chancellor feels confident that they will.

Looking back on the past year's turmoil in monetary policy and the foreign exchanges, Mr Lamont is equally sanguine. "The exchange rate mechanism has existed since 1979 and it has brought enormous benefits to its members. This country too achieved considerable benefits for much of the time sterling was in the ERM. Mr Lamont feels more confident than ever that British policy was not to blame for sterling's forced withdrawal."

The main fault-line was not so much in the mechanism itself, but in the divergence between the requirements of German monetary

policy and our own requirements. We can now see the issue more clearly, and subsequent developments show that what happened was not the result of a unique British problem. Those pressures are still there, though one can anticipate a time when they might disappear."

As for the speculation that British withdrawal from the ERM might encourage an inner core of European countries to move towards an even tighter monetary union, Mr Lamont is unperturbed. "If a number of countries agreed to observe narrower margins, I believe the implications for Britain would be limited provided Britain managed to keep its inflation rate close to that of the hard-core group. That is precisely the objective we have set ourselves. The key determinants of whether we suffer or whether we prosper are whether we stay competitive against the rest of the community and whether Britain remains an attractive location

for inward investment. We intend to achieve both."

Mr Lamont also appears relaxed about external pressures on the British economy in future. The growing current account deficit has been identified by many private economists as the most serious constraint on economic growth in the medium term. But the Chancellor disagrees.

I don't believe we will have difficulty in financing our deficit. I'm not indifferent, obviously, to the trend of the current account, though I don't regard it as my major problem. Insofar as I'm concerned by it, that is yet another reason why we should act, over the medium term, to control the public sector borrowing requirement."

It is the PSBR that keeps recurring as the biggest challenge that will face the Treasury in the medium term. "We have to refocus on the size of the PSBR," he says, acknowledging that part of the

increase in public borrowing cannot be explained away by the recession. "There is clearly a level of public borrowing which, if continued over the medium term, would be profoundly unsatisfactory. It would lead in a comparatively short period of time to our debt to GDP ratio rising."

Mr Lamont notes that Britain is fortunate in having reduced its public debt ratio very sharply during the 1980s. Even after a few years of large borrowing, Britain's debt to GDP ratio would still be below that of most countries in Europe. But "having worked so hard in the 1980s to establish this very healthy position, it would be very wrong to throw it all away."

What, then, should be done about the PSBR? The Chancellor does not accept that the government's spending plans are unsustainable. "The remit — to keep real growth of public spending within the trend growth of the economy — was chosen precisely because it is

sustainable. We have made some tough decisions on spending. What matters is the political will of the government. I believe that will exist and will continue to exist."

But if public spending is to remain on the course charted in the Autumn Statement, eliminating the PSBR as the economy recovers — a goal Mr Lamont reiterated in his interview — will surely require higher taxes?

The Chancellor will not comment directly on this point, but he does rule out other possible ways of closing the budget gap. He strongly rejects suggestions that middle-class tax reliefs and social security entitlements should be radically overhauled. "I don't accept for a moment that all tax allowances are a middle-class welfare state. That's rubbish. Sensible tax allowances just let people keep a bit of their own money."

As for social security, Mr Lamont stresses the government's intention to stick to its manifesto pledges, including raising the basic retirement pension and child benefit in line with inflation. Asked whether unexpected events since the election might require such commitments to be modified, he replies bluntly: "We've got to keep our manifesto promises."

But the manifesto also promised to "make further progress" in reducing the basic rate of income tax, so aren't the options for deficit reduction limited to raising national insurance contributions (an income tax increase in very thin disguise) or raising more from value-added tax?

Mr Lamont will not comment on these options, but when it is pointed out that ministers have consistently refused to rule out the possibility of extending VAT to items such as food, fuel and public transport, he acknowledges that this is true.

Of course, extending the scope of VAT, apart from its political unpopularity would make it harder to continue reducing inflation, which Mr Lamont stresses again and again as his over-riding objective. After leaving the ERM, bearing down on inflation has become more important than ever. "I am determined to get inflation down to the bottom half of the target range of 1 to 4 per cent."

But how can such low inflation be guaranteed once the economy begins to pick up? The answer is clear: the Chancellor must continue to use his best judgment, with the help of Treasury advice.

Mr Lamont has no time for critics who want monetary policy transferred to an independent Bank of England or some other body outside the Treasury. "It is a mistake to believe that changes in the institutional set-up can solve the problem of fighting inflation. Giving the bank responsibility for monetary policy would not create any new instrument. I believe the moves to much greater openness in monetary policy, which I have already described, will enhance accountability, and will give the markets greater confidence that our decisions are being made in a way which is consistent with our inflation objectives. I very much doubt if changing the status of the bank would add much to this."

As for the Treasury's new advisory panel of outside economists, Mr Lamont is even more blunt. "The main aim of the panel is to provide an independent analysis and forecast of the economy, which should also help to break the idea that the Treasury, good as it is, has some kind of monopoly of wisdom in this area. I would not have set the panel up had I not been keen to hear what it had to say, though I read the members' views already. The decisions — and any credit or blame — stay with me!"

There can now be no doubt about who is responsible for economic policy, whether it succeeds or fails. Clearly Mr Lamont expects his policies in the new year to be more successful than in 1992.

## Prayers of poison

Bernard Levin on how religious fanatics undermine decent society

There's no pleasing some folk, not even when the matter concerns the proper precedence governing people to be murdered. The tragedy of the two Indian temples in Ayodhya, razed to the ground with mutual bloodshed that has already brought well over 1,000 deaths, has now taken a new and sinister turn. The Indian government has announced that it will build a Hindu temple and a mosque on the site of the original destruction and burning, only a judgment of Solomon. But neither the Hindus nor the Muslims are up in arms against the proposal, and India will be lucky if the arms are only metaphorical.

The first indication that two ghastly horrors are being looked in the mouth came from the Hindus. Their World Council insists that they must be allowed a new temple on the site of the original, which was dedicated to the god Ram. So far, so good: there is, it seems, quite enough land to accommodate both the temple and the mosque. But the Hindus demand the whole of the site, arguing that it is sacred to Ram. Meanwhile, however, the Muslims have also denounced the government's plan, saying that it is "playing with the sentiments of the minority" (Hindus in India outnumber Muslims by nearly eight to one).

It is tempting to quote Shakespeare — so tempting that I shall succumb to temptation: "A plague o' both their houses". But we cannot do so. For the reason is that the Hindus and Muslims are not, as we measure our own religions, we can be thankful that Anglicans do not murder Catholics, nor do frenzied Baptists set fire to the conventicles of Methodists. Another temptation, however, would be to write that our religions as seriously as they do in India.

No one knows how many Indi-

ans died in the slaughter that accompanied and followed partition: it is very unlikely to be fewer than a million. That should have taught India how to live in harmony: after all, it had lived in harmony through most of the years of the Raj, and even the independence struggle was waged with remarkable restraint on both sides, not only because Gandhi would not have it otherwise. But it is clear now that, over the years, religious fanaticism in India has thrown a mighty shadow over the entire state.

Are we entering a new age of religion? Not long ago, I dropped a tiny stone, wondering whether anyone would pick it up, though nobody did. I said that before seven years were out this country would have enacted legislation which in some undramatic ways would curb the activities, including the religious activities, of British Muslims.

Not a day passes now without a newspaper or broadcast referring to "fundamentalist Muslims", and more often than not the story concerns some violent action by them. But there is a catch in it: fundamentalist Islam is shaking the Muslim states themselves and, with the exception of Pakistan, they are becoming more and more alarmed by the actions of the fanatics. (A year or so ago the Algerian government rigorously suppressed Algeria's fundamentalist movement, but only yesterday there came news that the government is likely to fall, and to fall to the fundamentalists themselves.)

True, all religions have fanatic fringes; there are fundamentalists in the Church of England, insisting that every word of the Bible is the literal truth (including all the

contradictory genealogies in the Bible), and it must be the — or devil's own job for Archbishop Carey to refrain from bawling a few of them over the head with his crozier. Even the Jews are at it: there is a bunch of them in Jerusalem who stone the cars of passers-by driving past them on the Sabbath, and another lot who insist that they are in the wrong country. But some go much further. Not long ago I wrote about a murder case in Britain, in which an 18-year-old girl from a Muslim family was killed by her brother; she had been associating with an English boy, non-Muslim, whom they murdered too. I quoted, and I quote it again now, a newspaper heading over the murder story, which read "Muslims in Britain have been divided by the murder of Sharihan Bibi, 18, by members of her own family as a punishment for adultery".

If you stop and think about it, that must be a remarkable division: it can only mean that some Muslims in Britain think that a bloody double murder by a pair of fanatical swine is a horrible and wicked thing, but that other Muslims in Britain think that such an occurrence is not a horrible and wicked thing presumably — indeed, inevitably — because the victims, though they broke no law of this country, had transgressed certain religious taboos and were therefore fit only for slaughter.

The two murderers were found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. Now tell me how long you think it will be before there is a serious demand for the enactment

of legislation giving Muslim citizens certain rights of punishment — though not capital, to be sure — over their co-religionists. Perhaps, indeed, my soothing — of restrictions on Muslim activities — will first come true just as my seven years are up. But if it does come true, be sure it will not do so in the form of Dr Siddiqui and his prescriptions: it will be somebody not at all ridiculous, and truly dangerous.

I have strayed far from Ayodhya and its future, if any. If I have discussed the Muslims primarily, it is because they now loom larger than other religions, but if there is one thing that history can be sure of, it is that for every Reformation there is a Counter-Reformation, and the rise of Hinduism, in its present fanatical and violent Indian form, will surely tilt the clamour in a different direction, before another Reformation tilts it back.

Happily, English religion had its bloody and violent period centuries ago: nobody will commit murder because of the NEB (more's the pity), or even in an argument about the ordination of women. A few paragraphs ago I suggested that we would be better off if we took our own religion more seriously; by now, I am much less sure. Surely, Christ, Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius, Lao Tse and all the other great teachers, must weep when they see their messages of love flung on bonfires, while intolerance, anger, hatred, cruelty and violence stalk the world: if you want irony that one, surely, is the greatest of all.

Or perhaps the second greatest. From independence, India has insisted that it is a secular state: any worship is permitted, but the state itself has no religion. Tell that to the builders of the new Ayodhya: for that matter, tell it to the demolition squads who will follow hard upon.



## Chalker makes mark

AS JOHN TUSA clears his desk at the BBC World Service for the last time today, colleagues are putting their money on Baroness Chalker as his most likely successor. Having lost her Commons seat at the election, the overseas aid minister and deputy foreign secretary is thought to be looking for a career away from politics.

The job of managing director of the World Service, whose funding comes from the foreign office, would be the ideal challenge for Chalker, who has been spotted recently in the corridors of Bush House, it would also fulfil John Major's desire to see more women in top public jobs.

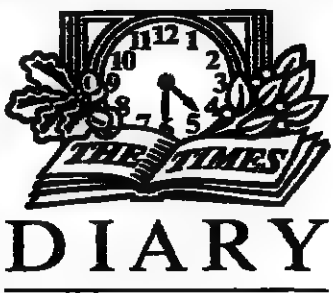
Chalker is by no means home and away. Her husband, editor of news and current affairs for BBC Radio, and Patricia Hodgson, head of policy and planning at the BBC, are thought to be in the running.

The departure of Chalker from the foreign office, following the recent announcement of Tristan Garel-Jones's resignation, would leave a vacuum at the top of the organisation. Chalker and Garel-

Jones are both staunch allies of the prime minister and he will have trouble recruiting such experienced foreign hands to two of the most important jobs outside the Cabinet.

One solution would be to give the overseas aid post to Baroness Chalker, his close friend, who was made a privy counsellor in today's Honours list. It would put Chalker, an education minister, within striking distance of the Cabinet and would have the benefit of maintaining the status quo in terms of the ratio and seniority of ministers in the Lords and Commons.

David Heathcoat-Amory, deputy chief whip, is being tipped for the post of minister of state with responsibility for European affairs. If he gets it, it will be the second time he has stepped into the shoes of Garel-Jones, who was previously deputy chief whip. But Heathcoat-Amory's promotion is not assured. Stephen Dorrell, the treasury minister, and John Redwood from the DTI are both ripe for promotion. Dorrell, a protégé of Lord Walker, would fit into the rarefied atmosphere of the foreign office reasonably well. What the mandarins at



King Charles Street would make of the arch-Thatcherite Redwood remains to be seen.

### Gong gang

THE elevation to the House of Lords of Shirley Williams completes the reunion of the original SDP Gang of Four. Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank will be delighted to make room on the red leather benches for their former colleague, Lord Owen, busily trying to bring peace to the Balkans, is still to bury the hatchet with his former colleagues following their merger with the Liberals.

Jenkins, leader of the Liberal Democrat peers, says: "Shirley has nearly come to the end of her Har-

vard University commitment. We hope that she is going to be in the Lords a very great deal. She is an extremely valuable recruit."

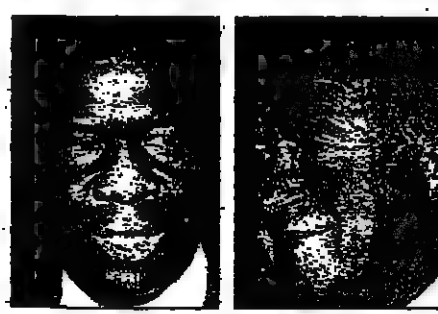
Williams is expected to be offered a job on the front bench before long. Indeed, when Jenkins decides to take a less active role he may well look to her as his successor. "Certainly at some stage I will wish to divest myself of this. The thought has crossed my mind as to who might take over but it would be silly to talk about that now."

### Wedding bells

THE announcement yesterday of the engagement of Elisabeth Murdoch, daughter of Rupert Murdoch, the chairman and chief executive of News Corporation, to Elkin Pianim marks an especially happy ending to 1992. In March Andrews Kwame Pianim, Elkin's father and a leading Ghanaian economist, was released from prison after serving nine years of an 18-year sentence. He had been accused of plotting to overthrow Ghana's dictator, Jerry Rawlings. In an interview after his release, Pianim said: "Conditions in prison are difficult at the beginning when you are used to being your own man. Sometimes there were about 30 in

### Better to wail, Jonah

JAMES Jonah may have discovered, to his cost, the first rule of diplomacy. Jonah (left), the UN special envoy who has been in Israel to intercede on behalf of the Palestinians stranded in no man's land, now knows not to smile too broadly. Reporting on his progress, Swiss television broadcast a news report showing a group of Palestinians standing ankle-deep in snow. As the reporter announced that Jonah had appeared to have had little success, the camera panned to show Jonah apparently laughing heartily in the company of Israel's prime minister Yitzhak Rabin (right), who seemed no less amused. Diplomatic eyebrows were raised in Geneva.



a cell. All you have is your little corner and your bed but it shows you that a man does not need that much to survive." Since his release he has been rebuilding his life in Accra with Cornelia, his Dutch wife.

### Midnight mystery

CARLTON Television executives have been looking forward to tonight for the past two years. At the first chime of midnight the new

television station starts broadcasting to viewers in London and the southeast. But despite months of planning Carlton still does not know whose face will be the first to grace the screen. There is a chance it will be Ken Johnson, of the Viking Society in Islington, or Dave Ell, a fly fisherman from Walslow. Then again it might be photographer Terence Donovan. They, along with scores of other ordinary Londoners, will act as a logo for Carlton. A spokesman for Carlton

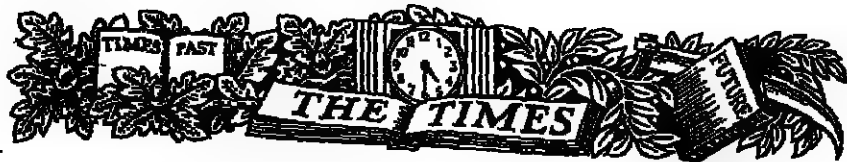
says: "We had thought it would be Chris Tarrant, who is hosting *A Carlton New Year*, but we have decided to precede the programme with one of our identification people."

Whatever sceptics might say about the honours system, Britain is a nation of gong-lovers. A new national service medal is proving so popular there is now a two-month waiting list to buy one. Sixteen million people who registered for civilian national service during the second world war and more than five million postwar conscripts are entitled to display the £24.75 cupro-nickel bauble.

"When we were feeding them... not needing them."







## TRUMPS FOR HONOURS

Five modest proposals to restore honour to the honours system

So here to bring in the New Year comes another honours list of the old sort: hierarchical, huge, craftily networked, a pretty pyramid of baubles to reward the boys and girls who have pleased their political masters. As a former government whip, John Major may be reluctant to reduce his stock of useful carrots and sticks. But for a prime minister who declared when he succeeded to the office that he wanted to work towards a classless society, he has been disappointingly slow to grapple with the honours that are the outward and visible symbols of a class-riven society.

In a radio interview last week, Mr Major said that he proposed no dramatic changes in the honours system. But starting with the Queen's birthday honours list in June, "automaticity" of awards for judges, civil servants who reach a certain rank, and politicians who do as the whips tell them will be gradually phased out. "I believe honours should reflect merit," said Mr Major, which is like an American televangelist bearing witness that he is against sin.

Any honours system is by definition hierarchical: some get the things, others don't. Not many stern republicans would abolish honours. But here are five modest proposals to produce a sensible honours system for a would-be meritocratic representative democracy in the late 20th century. The honours lists are absurdly big, including well over 2,000 people a year, and bewilderingly graded by ranks, orders and classes. It takes a textual critic to understand the system. In size, and in the complexity of orders that reflect the last doubtful enchantments of the gang warfare of the Middle Ages, it needs drastic pruning.

The offensive distinction between honours reserved for different ranks should be abolished. At present "other ranks" such as long-serving school janitors and prime ministerial chauffeurs receive British Empire Medals, roughly a third of all awards, and named appropriately after an empire that ceased to exist 50 years ago. The

multifarious grander honours are reserved for officers and gentlemen. Footballers and television stars get the OBE or something nearly as lowly, to tickle the tabloids; cricketers and straight actors do better.

The cast-iron tradition by which certain titles go to certain ranks in certain jobs — high court judges, lieutenant-generals, permanent secretaries — should be ended. Honours should be for service for the public good beyond normal duty. They should not be delivered as automatically as the milk.

Mr Major should end "political" honours for MPs who have always voted at their party's call, and never thought of thinking for themselves at all, and for contributors of share-holders' money to party funds. He should devise ways to ensure that "working" peers never become an oxymoron. Honours are by nature political, from the warrior kings who rewarded their magnates with titles to James VI/I refreshing his treasury by flogging baronetcies. The venality of political honours is not as blatant as when they were sold à la carte by Lloyd George. But it still arouses righteous scorn.

Fifth, the obsessive secrecy surrounding the working of the system should end. It is a private arcana of public patronage, whose workings cannot be questioned in parliament, but which remains entirely in the control of Downing Street and its well-greased honours machinery.

The system would be better run from Buckingham Palace, which is good at such points of honour, and manages the few honours reserved under its control notably better than the politicians. This would return to the monarchy a new role, at a time when its function is under examination. But it is not going to happen. However, a reforming government, which wanted to make Britain a country at ease with itself, would see that its honours did less to cheapen society and divide the classes. As Aristotle put it, writing the editorial on an earlier honours list: "Dignity does not consist in getting honours, but in deserving them."

## RING IN THE NEW MARKET

The EC now needs to look to the health of world trade

Beacons will be lit and fireworks set off tonight, and remarkably, the European Community is the object of these New Year's eve celebrations. To rejoice at the completion of some 300 new EC regulations may seem positively wayward. Yet the free movement of "goods, people, services and capital" throughout the EC, the goal to which these directives purport to be addressed, is unashamedly liberal. The "single European market", the completion of which is celebrated tonight, is potentially the EC's greatest achievement since the signing of the Treaty of Rome. There is much room for vigilance, in 1993 and beyond, to ensure that the new rules do not allow bureaucracy to have its red-taped way with these freedoms. There is none for carping tonight.

The symbolic date of December 31, 1992 was dreamt up seven years ago to concentrate Europe's mind on the potential benefits of fusing national markets. The 1992 programme was designed as a shock to the prevailing cultures of both business and government across Europe: its architects have achieved that aim at least. Businesses may shrink or grow, eat their competitors or be eaten. But those who run them will have to plan on a larger canvas, search out new opportunities and count fiercer competition into their calculations.

The single market is about knocking down barriers to enterprise — whether that of the lawyer who wants to practice in another EC country or the East Anglian miller who has never heard the old saw about taking coals to Newcastle and believes he can compete with Italians for the Neapolitan spaghetti market. All this the Treaty of Rome seemed to promise, but for it to happen, EC governments had to agree to abolish a mass of non-tariff barriers and the European Commission to switch to a lighter style of EC-wide law-making.

Not all capitals took the hint. Monitoring of the market's performance is only just beginning. As business and consumer groups point out daily, barriers still stand.

Regulating to deregulate is a slow business, whether wheels grind small or large. But in spite of well-advised lunacies, Brussels has hit the balance between intervention and anarchy better than some of its detractors believe. Some EC markets may be freer than others. Liberalisation may be checked in places. But as the single market formally opens for business, the demolition of barriers is an irreversible trend.

The market does not, however, open its doors in promising political and economic circumstances. The economic confidence of the mid-1980s which supplied the motor force for liberalisation is being sapped by recession and worry over the EC's obstinately high level of unemployment, now standing at 16 million. The temptations simply to move trade barriers from national frontiers to the EC's borders are great, destructive as this would be of European and global prosperity.

The Community's political masters should keep a wary eye on enforcement, but accept that perfect regulation is unattainable and undesirable. "It is the nature of all greatness not to be exact," said Edmund Burke, "and great trade will always be attended with considerable abuses." What is far more important is to open the EC's doors wider to trade with the rest of the world and with Eastern Europe in particular. Western Europe cannot credibly sound trumpets for a frontier-free EC while its common agricultural policy impoverishes Third World food producers and trade barriers shut out Polish coal or Czech steel. In the growth of healthy markets in these countries lie the best hopes for Europe's unemployed.

The EC has tackled its internal trade barriers with foresight and imagination, yet allows France to continue to place in jeopardy the Uruguay Round of global trade talks, on which the future of a liberal trading system — and with it, the EC's prosperity — depend. The most important New Year's resolution for EC governments must be to crown the real achievement of the single market programme with an early Gatt deal.

## GOING FOR A SPOON

This is the age when Everyman can play at being connoisseur

Britain's hidden hoards of treasure and fool's gold squirrelled away in the attic show no signs of drying up. The *Antiques Roadshow*, which has made petty connoisseurship a mass British craze, returns for its 150th programme next Sunday.

Much of the modern interest in often hideous and useless objects from the past is mercenary. The ancient dream of becoming rich overnight whispers that a crock of gold may lie unrecognised beside the debris of generations. The itinerant experts of the *Roadshow* attract crowds bearing things wherever they go. The things turn out to be junk, or, surprisingly often in the present boom for bygone, strike gold.

Part of the attraction may be snobbery. Suburban tea out of a Victorian silver teapot, however ugly and impractical, somehow tastes better, especially if the neighbours pour theirs out of earthenware. Part of the attraction of *Roadshow* is the modern lust for a moment of fame, even if this is achieved only by rubbing shoulders with tele-celebrities. All human beings have their share of

avarice, snobbery and self-importance. But behind the modern mass passion for antiques lies the more interesting impulse to hunt for roots in a changing world.

Antiques are remnants of history that have escaped the shipwrecks of time, and modern historians have come to recognise that the history and bibelots of Everyman are interesting, as well as those of princes. Because they are rarer, commoners' antiques may be more illuminating historically, though they tend to be less profitable in the auction room.

Before *The Antiques Roadshow*'s new generation of collectors, this backward-looking passion was confined to the upper-middle classes. This is the age of the common man, in antiques as in other departments of life. Prices have fallen fast during the recession, but the petty antiques markets are still busy.

The children of Arthur Negus can discover the pleasure of collecting the past because it is beautiful, or simply because they like it, and not just because it is likely to bring a windfall. Everyman can now afford to be a dilettante, even if it is only in caddy spoons.

## Action to curb the law's delays

From Mr Alistair G. MacDuff

Sir, There has been much recent discussion concerning delay in the courts and the costs to the public purse of legal services. May I mention a provision within the new Criminal Justice Act which will add greatly to both costs and delay?

Since October 1, in the large majority of cases, crown court judges have been required to consider a pre-sentence report (a form of social enquiry report) before a defendant may be sentenced. There is no provision which enables this requirement to be waived, even if all parties are legally represented and consent.

In many cases the report will be an invaluable aid to the sentence and will greatly assist in determining the just sentence. However, in many other cases a report will be wholly unnecessary — where, for example, imprisonment is recognised to be inevitable, or where the judge has already decided that he can give a community sentence.

These pre-sentence reports cannot be written until the defendant has either expressed his intention to plead guilty or has been found guilty by a jury. In very many cases an adjournment of the case will be unavoidable.

This will necessarily occur at the end of a trial where a defendant is found guilty. It will also occur where a defendant makes his decision to plead guilty only at the door of the court. The effects of this rule are already being felt. Among the many undesirable consequences which all create further costs and delay are:

1. The costs to the public purse of two hearings, attended by barristers and solicitors, where one hearing would suffice.
2. A delay of some weeks before a defendant knows his fate.
3. The inevitable delay caused to other cases by the need to accommodate these adjourned cases in a later list.
4. The difficulty of fitting the adjourned cases into the list of the same judge (who may have moved on to a different court) and of arranging the adjourned hearing to accommodate counsel who represented the defendant at the trial.

In the case of part-time judges the difficulties are even more acute. Some weeks after his sitting the recorder will have to arrange to "fit in" a further one or two days (with inevitable disruption to his own practice) to pass sentence in the cases he has previously tried. He will have to be paid for his extra sitting time, and a vacant court room found.

Sir, the rule needs to be changed.

Yours faithfully,  
ALISTAIR MACDUFF,  
Devereux Chambers,  
Devereux Court, WC2.

## Commercial disputes

From the Chief Executive of the Bar Council

Sir, Mr David Steel, QC (letter, December 21), draws urgent attention to the need to make arrangements to continue the work of the Commercial Court in the City of London. Your readers may be unaware of a recent innovation introduced into hearings of this court.

Last June Mr Justice Saville authorised the evidence of a Hong Kong shipping agent to be taken by video conferencing at the Bar Council studio (report, Law Times, October 13). This obliged the need to fly the witness to London at a cost of some £10,000. Instead the cost was just over £700.

Video conferencing has the potential to save thousands of pounds in international litigation and makes it possible to involve witnesses who are not free to travel. The Bar Council will be pleased to share its experience in this area with those in the City who are interested.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MOTTRAM,  
Chief Executive,  
The General Council of the Bar,  
3 Bedford Row, WC1.  
December 21.

## Life before Wings

From Mr Michael Grosvenor Myer

Sir, The Beatles may not have quite such mythic status among the young as your third leader (December 17) suggests.

A university teacher I know was recently asked by a student whether it was true that Paul McCartney used to be in another group before Wings.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL GROSVENOR MYER,  
34 West End,  
Haddenham, Cambridge.  
December 17.

## Healthy solution

From Miss Katharine Whitehorn

Sir, Alan Ryan's excellent article (December 22) on the ills of American health care left out yet another problem Bill Clinton has to tackle: the cost to doctors of their education.

When most doctors start their careers \$100,000 in debt, they have to go for high-paying specialties to pay it back, with the result that there are many areas with no primary health care at all.

The poor use the emergency room

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Bidding for the Channel 5 licence

From the Chief Executive of the Independent Television Commission

Sir, Sir Hugh Dundas (letter, December 22) suspects that the Independent Television Commission used a technicality in the Broadcasting Act to reject the application for the Channel 5 licence submitted by Channel Five Holdings. That is not the case.

The Broadcasting Act 1990 makes it clear that the ITC shall not award the licence unless it appears to the commission that the applicant would be able to maintain the service throughout the period for which the licence would be in force. A provisional award is not an option open to the ITC.

The ITC's invitation to apply, published in April this year, described this test as its "primary consideration" in assessing the business plan of an applicant. The commission was not satisfied that the business plan and funding proposed by Channel Five Holdings satisfied the statutory test and concluded that the licence should not be awarded.

The commission was not content with some of the costs contained in the plan or with the audience share and revenue projections which it contained. Nor was it content with the level of committed funding, an issue which had been fully discussed between the ITC and Channel Five Holdings in September.

The application by Channel Five Holdings was the only one received. It was submitted in early July; the total payments to the Treasury were known to be only £1,000 a year, and yet, by December 17, in spite of two postponements of the commission's decision at the request of Channel Five Holdings, there was still insufficient investor commitment — as distinct from expressions of interest.

The purpose of the 12-week period between the award and grant of the licence was for financial arrangements to be finalised, but not to seek hitherto uncommitted investment for the great majority of the funding.

Sir Hugh also believes that the ITC was influenced by a desire to protect the Channel 3 licensees, particularly the two London companies. He is mistaken. The threats of legal action

by Carlton and LWT if the licence was awarded did not influence the ITC's decision.

There was no hidden agenda. The commission came to a view of the Channel Five Holdings' application on the basis of all the relevant evidence available to it.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GLENCROSS,  
Chief Executive,  
Independent Television Commission,  
70 Brompton Road, SW3,  
December 29.

From Dr Stephen Castell

Sir, We share Sir Hugh Dundas's suspicion that the ITC seized upon a technicality to provide it with an excuse for rejecting Thames Television's application for the Channel 5 licence. Since February 1989 we have wanted to submit an innovative bid for the licence, proposing multi-stream programming services and viewer-funded financing and ownership, based on a digital transmission system. It took 15 months to gain the ITC's grudging written confirmation that such a digital bid was legally tenable.

In view of this reluctance, we were not confident that the ITC would give our proposal a fair hearing, and we withdrew from the bidding at the eleventh hour. Now we are astonished to find the ITC stating that "the possibility of treating the frequencies concerned as part of the resources available for the introduction of digital television at a later date will be among the matters for review". I suppose that we should welcome this, now public, recognition by the ITC of the validity of our proposed approach; but it would have been more helpful all round to have had such clear acknowledgment before the bid deadline. Meanwhile, we shall certainly be redoubting our efforts to develop our idea for the utilisation of the Channel 5 frequencies.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN CASTELL,  
(Director), Cable and Satellite  
Telecommunications Ltd,  
PO Box 334, Wilham, Essex,  
December 22.

## The Army and Bosnia

From Mr Winston S. Churchill, MP for Don Valley (Conservative)

Sir, The fact that the government is now moving towards military intervention in Bosnia, rather than merely assisting with the provision of humanitarian aid, is to be welcomed. It is evident that this cannot effectively be done by air power alone, which indeed could be the worst of all options, doing nothing to protect the civilian population while placing our own forces at risk.

There is an urgent requirement for a Nato force, acting in the name of the United Nations, to be deployed to provide "safe havens" for the civilian population of Bosnia and, as a precautionary deterrent measure, to Macedonia and Kosovo.

It is unacceptable that a city such as Sarajevo be reduced to rubble by the preponderance of heavy weapons in the hands of the Serbs, with the attendant loss of civilian lives and tens of thousands more forced from their homes as refugees. It has also become urgent to ensure, so far as it is possible to do so, that this conflict does not spread wider in the Balkans.

Clearly Britain should play a leading role in such a deployment. However, this would inevitably show up the critical situation in which the

British Army has been placed due to the *Options for Change* cuts which were conceived in an entirely different international climate and which now require to be urgently reviewed.

Even now it is possible to call a halt to some of the proposed regimental amalgamations. The number of infantry battalions, scheduled to drop from 55 to 38, should be at a minimum of at least 43 and an additional 5,000 men added to the Army establishment over and above this figure to flesh out units which otherwise are and will remain under strength.

Already the "overstretch" in the British Army has become intolerable with, for example, the 2nd Battalion Light Infantry that I visited at Tidworth barracks earlier this month being required to deploy to Northern Ireland four times within two years.

In such circumstances it is wholly unrealistic to imagine that Britain can undertake a military deployment to the Balkans of any significance and duration without rescinding some of the cuts being made to the Army which go far beyond what can be justified by the present unstable international situation.

I have the honour to remain etc.  
WINSTON S. CHURCHILL,  
House of Commons,  
December 30.

## De-icing agent

From Mr Darren Lee

Sir, Mr Trevor Sharot (letter, December 30) recommends motorists to pour a kettle of warm water over frozen windcreens to melt the ice. The water must not be too hot, however, as this will cause the windscreen to crack.

I use this method and agree that it is indeed the quickest and most thorough, if one is careful.

Yours etc,  
DARREN LEE,  
Amber Lights, Purleigh Close,  
Basildon, Essex,  
December 30.

From Mr R. L. Allen  
Sir, I find that parking my car with a copy of *The Times* pressed to the glass prevents ice from forming, making de-icing agents redundant.

Yours faithfully,  
R. L. ALLEN,  
50 Lingfield Close,  
High Wycombe,  
Buckinghamshire,  
December 30.

of the nearest hospital — expensive and inappropriate.

Free education, in return for, say, five years' service in primary care, might make for better doctors as well as better provision for patients.

Yours etc,  
KATHARINE WHITEHORN  
(Vice-president),  
The Patients Association,  
18 Victoria Park Square, E2.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

## Honours, duty and civil service

From Lord Hanson

Sir, Recent press comment has questioned the suitability or otherwise of "automatic" honours for members of our civil service (report, December 22). Since they would never speak up for themselves, pray Sir, let me.

I am reminded of the actor who, having worked his way up through the ranks of the theatre, some 20 years' hard labour on the boards, was finally acclaimed "an overnight sensation" "a discovery". Automatically? No, he earned it, the hard way.

I am sure my point is not lost but to emphasise it, our civil servants are among the hardest-working people in and outside this country. They represent the finest service in the world and their honesty is a by-word.

With ability and assiduity, selected entirely on merit, a few reach the higher echelons and, like any other successful members of the public, are rewarded in the honours lists. Not automatically; they have earned their honours. Their reward is comparable in every way to that of anyone else. The civil service also helps to guide honours for others through the "system". If the present system is changed, this country will be poorer.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
HANSON,  
House of Lords.

From Mr Walter Cairns

Sir, Anthony Howard (December 22) asks: "Is Whitehall turning Tory?" He contrasts this alleged trend with the principle of impartiality which the civil service is supposed to uphold. However, should we not question the validity of that principle?

In almost every other country in the democratic world, it is accepted as normal that the civil service should be of the same political inclination as the government of the day. This is not considered to be improper, since a government relies largely upon its civil service to implement its policies, and to do so wholeheartedly and unreservedly.

It is surely undemocratic in the extreme that a "neutral", unelected administrative apparatus should be able to frustrate government policy by withholding co-operation. The sooner the civil service reflects the parliamentary majority the better.

Yours sincerely,  
W. CAIRNS,  
Brooklands Hall,  
836 Wilmslow Road, Manchester 20.

## A tale of two states

From Dr R. Hanka

Sir, Your leading article on the division of Czechoslovakia (December 24) was wrong to state that in 1939 the country was dismembered by Hitler.

When Hitler occupied Bohemia and Moravia in March 1939, Slovakia unilaterally declared independence and later, as the Slovak Republic, entered the second world war on Germany's side. At the end of the war the Slovak Republic disappeared from the international scene without any formal declaration and Slovakia re-established its position as an integral part of Czechoslovakia. The Slovak Republic thus succeeded in participating in the war on the losing side without ever having to concede defeat.

Today some Slovak politicians see the independent Slovak Republic as the successor to the Slovak Republic of the 1940s. Presumably, this means that the new Slovak Republic might find itself still at war with the UK, France and the United States.

Yours faithfully,  
RUDOLF HANKA,  
Wotton College, Cambridge,  
December 28.

From Mr John Eckerley

Sir, When Czechoslovakia was formed after the first world war, most countries adopted a spelling for the new state which conformed to their own spelling conventions (Tchéco-Tschecho-cia). For some inexplicable reason, the English-speaking countries adopted the Polish spelling with its absurd Cr.

If we are now to have a new state with a new name, is not this a unique opportunity to rectify the anomaly and agree to spell it as we are going to say it — "Chec Republic" or "Czechlands"?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN ECKERLEY,  
32 Cumnor Hill, Cumnor, Oxford,  
December 30.

## End in sight

From Mr Martin Warrillow

Sir, After just over a month of reading, "The Queen may have had an *anus horribilis*, but what about the unemployed/the miners/Norman Lamont/the Bosnians/the Somalis/the EC/John Major/David Mellor/the England football team?", I am getting just a little tired of it.

Now that we are reaching the end of 1992, can we please get rid of it?

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN WARRILLOW,  
31 Alexandra Mews,  
Tamworth, Staffordshire,  
December 22.



## SOCIAL NEWS

## Birthdays today

Mr Douglas Anthony, CH, former Australian Deputy Prime Minister, 63; Mr Garth Benn, publisher, 87; Sir George Blunden, former deputy governor, Bank of England, 70; Mr Michael Bonalack, golfer, 58; Sir George Christie, chairman, Glyndebourne Productions, 58; Mr Stephen Cleobury, organist, 44; Mr Marshall Sir Patrick Dunn, 80; Major-General J.D. Frost, 80; Mr Roy Greenfield, former editor, *Daily Mirror*, 46; Mr Jack Hargreaves, broadcaster, 81; Sir Anthony Hopkins, actor, 55; Sir James Howie, bacteriologist, 85; Mr Ben Kingsley, actor, 49; Mr Sandy Marshall, former chairman, Commercial Union Assurance, 68; Mr Peter May, former chairman, selection committee, TCCB, 63; Dr Valerie Pearl, president, New Hall, Cambridge, 66; Mr Jean-Pierre Remy, rugby player, 40; Sir Joshua Rowley, Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, 72; Sir John Sainy, former Clerk of the Parliament, 58; Sir David Walker, former chairman, Securities and Investments Board, 53.

## Election

Mr Ted Rowlands, MP, has been elected Chairman of the History of Parliament Trust, succeeding Sir Robert Rhodes James, with effect from tomorrow.

## Church news

Next Archbishop of Derby  
The Rev Canon Ian Gifford, sub-Provost of Derby Cathedral, is to be Archbishop of Derby, succeeding the Ven Robert Dell who has retired.

The Rev Paul Adamson, Vicar, Frodsham, to be Team Vicar, St George's and Thornbury in the North York and Redcliffe Team Ministry (Newcastle).  
The Rev David Adams, Curate, Cumbria Down in Manston Church, 5 Stoke Bath and Wells; to be Vicar, North Wingfield Parish Team Vicar, with particular responsibility for St John's, Tunstall (Derby).  
The Rev Matthew Aspinham, Vicar, Marlborough Team Ministry (Bath and Wells); to be Vicar, Redhill Hill (Worcester).  
The Rev Alan Bell, Rector, Fakenham; to be also Rural Dean of Burnham and Walsingham (Norfolk).  
The Rev David Bell, Curate, Kingsdon, Cleeve, Eton Bishop, Alenmore, and Thurston; to be Priest-in-charge, St Peter's, Walsingham, St James, Barmston; St John Baptist, Weston Beggard (Hereford).  
The Rev Roy Rector, Ingelby; to be also Rural Dean of Belislaw (Lincoln).  
The Rev Mary Cullen, Curate, St John Evangelist, Carrington; to be Parish Deacon, Harwell and Chilton (Oxford).  
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The Rev Canon Roger Knight, rural Dean, St John's, Highgate, Northampton; to be Vicar of the Diocese of Education (London).  
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## Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jacques Carter, navigator, St Malo, Brittany, 1491; Hermann Boerhaave, physician, Voorhout, near Leiden, 1668; Charles Edward Stuart, (Bonnie Prince Charlie), Rome, 1720; Charles Cornwallis, soldier and statesman, Dorchester, near Dorchester, 1738; Giovanni Pascoli, poet, San Mauro di Romagna, 1855; Henri Matisse, painter, Le Cateau, France, 1869; George C. Marshall, general, statesman, formulated Marshall Aid, Nobel Peace laureate 1953, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, 1880.  
DEATHS: Giovanni Borelli, mathematician and astronomer, Rome, 1679; Sir Dugald Boscawen, 1st Baron, 1681; John Flamsteed, 1st Astronomer Royal 1675-1719, London, 1719; Gustave Courbet, painter, La Tour-de-Peilz, Switzerland, 1877; Sir Frank Bown, actor, 1939; Sir Malcolm Campbell, land and water speed record breaker, Reigate, Surrey, 1948.  
The window tax was imposed, 1695.  
Ellis Island, New York, was opened as an immigration depot, 1890.  
The chimneys of Big Ben were broadcast by the BBC for the first time, 1935.  
The farthing ceased to be legal tender in Britain at midnight, 1960.

## University news

Queen's  
Mr G. Marshall has been elected to the Provostship, to succeed Dr J. Moffat.  
Manchester  
Appointments to Chairs  
Peter Meudell, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, to be Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychology, from January 1.  
Jeremy Lawrence, Senior Lecturer in Spanish, to be Professor of Spanish in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies, from January 1.  
Other appointments  
Senior Lecturer in Nursing: Jean Faugier  
Senior Lecturer in Orthopaedic Surgery: J.G. Andrew  
Lecturer in General Practice: D.K. Cragg  
Recent grants include  
Cancer Research Campaign, The molecular basis of cell cohesion in normal and neoplastic cells. Professor D.R. Curran, £164,000.  
North Western Regional Health Authority, Research project: Imaging Regional Drug Research Project, Professor J. Ashwood, £100,000.  
SERC, Nuclear structure and dynamics at high spin and isospin, Professor W.R. Phillips, £125,000.  
£2,703,343: Transforming architectural models into digital, Professor S. A. Fisher, £143,960; Enhanced imaging techniques for microanalytical imaging and characterization, Dr W. Clegg and Dr C.D. Wright, £125,846; Total synthesis of biologically active heterocyclic natural products, Professor J. Thomas, £112,846; Breakdown of liquid/solid insulation, Dr W.G. Charles and Professor D.W. Allwood, £100,242.  
Bath  
Peter Scott, the former editor of the *Times Higher Education Supplement* was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his services to education at a degree ceremony on December 22.

## Latest wills

Phyllis Georgina Bourne, of Durham Park, Bristol, left estate valued at £343,897 net. She left £1,600 and effects to personal legacies and the residue equally between Bristol Age Care, St Francis Hospice, Knowle, Bristol, British Red Cross, Spanish War Veterans, NSPCC, RSPCA and the Friends of Bristol Horser Society.  
Mr Anthony Gerald Bailey, of Heytesbury, Wilt, left estate valued at £214,074 net. He left personal legacies totalling £7,000, his horse brashes and harnesses to the Dewey Museum, Warminster, and the residue equally between the League of Friends of Oldstock Hospital, Salisbury, the Home of Rest for Horses, Aylesbury, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and British Heart Foundation.



Winter warmer: Adam Gent and Peter Cooper show off their firebreathing skills to visitors at Hampton Court Palace during a week of traditional festivities

## Banned golf clubs strike gold

By JOHN SHAW

A COLLECTION of "illegal" golf clubs designed to help players hit the ball further and straighter is to be auctioned in Chester next month.  
Most of the putters and woods were designed by ingenious club makers at the turn of the century but are now illegal because they contravene the British and American golf rules.  
The collection, being sold by Phillips, includes Hamilton's

block head putter which looks like a croquet mallet and was intended for putting croquet-style. It is estimated to make up to £1,200. Runyan's prism putter from the Sixties enabled a player to see a straight line to the hole through a glass prism fitted in the club head (£300-£500).

The rules, however, state that club heads "shall be generally plain in shape." Bob Gowland, the firm's golfing expert, who will be taking the auction on January 22, says

that while the items are illegal, they can be used for practice, "and they're a lot of fun".  
The sale coincides with the British Golf Collectors' annual meeting in Chester. The 51-lot sale is expected to make about £200,000. The most valuable lot is a late 18th century thick-bladed lofting iron, used to "lift" the ball from a flat pathway, which is expected to make up to between £8,000-£12,000. For many years it stood forgotten in a hall stand.

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.C. Carreras and Miss J.M. Sheehan  
The engagement is announced between David Charles, younger son of Dr and Mrs Joseph Carreras of Rushy, Hertfordshire, and Joanna Mary, younger daughter of Captain and Mrs Patrick Sheehan, of East Hendred, Oxfordshire.  
Mr R.C. Crookall and Miss S.M. Boylan  
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the Hon Christopher and Mrs Chewode of Chertsey, Hampshire, and Staghall, daughter of Mr and Mrs Desmond Boylan, formerly of Co Louth, Ireland now of Marion, Massachusetts, USA.

Mr J.E.F. Crookall and Miss S.H. Cleobury  
The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of Mrs S. Crookall, of Bradford, and Mr G. Crookall, of Bolton, and Suzanne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Cleobury, of Cambridge.

Mr A.N. Francis and Miss R.M. Lewis  
The engagement is announced between Adrian Nicholas, eldest son of Major and Mrs R.J. Francis, of Farnham, Surrey, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Neil Lewis, of Hubbards Hall, Essex.

Mr J. Herzig and Miss M.A.K. Gessler  
The engagement is announced between Herwig, second son of M and Mrs Philippe Jeanson, of L'Abbaye de Lessey, Manche, France, and Virginia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David J.B. Rutherford, of London, W14.

Mr D. Reilly and Miss C.F. Newby  
The engagement is announced between Daniel, eldest son of M and Mrs M. Reilly, of Luton, and Laura, daughter of Mr J.F. Newby, of Chislehurst, and Mrs L.M. Gregory, of Cobham.

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Dr A.S. Clark and Miss J. Coltham  
The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Sir Thomas and Lady Clark, of Muscat, Oman, and Julie, daughter of Mr Raymond Collins, of Houston, Texas, and Mrs Katherine Montgomery, of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr J.F. Manuask and Miss S.M. Boylan  
The engagement is announced between Joseph, son of Mr Raymond A. Manuask and the late Mrs Frances Manuask, of Nashville, Tennessee, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Clive James, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr P. Marikantoni and Miss L. Constantine  
The engagement is announced between Paul, youngest son of the late Mr Constantine G. Marikantoni, of Harare, Zimbabwe, and Laurence, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jean Constantine, of Farnham, Surrey.

Dr J.J. Morton and Miss E.E. Trafford  
The engagement is announced between Jacques, son of Mme Lodi Morton, of Beirut, Lebanon, and Fiona, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel J.M.H. Trafford, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mrs Elizabeth Lyon-Brown, of Great Houghton, Northamptonshire.

Mr E.C.D. Sissim and Miss V.B. Sykes  
The engagement is announced between Edmund, younger son of the late Major General and Mrs Eric Sissim, of Somerset, and Victoria, youngest daughter of Mrs Margaret Sykes and the late Mr Peter Sykes, of Almondsbury, Yorkshire.

Mr C.J. Stewart and Miss V.A. Harrison  
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs M. Stewart, of West Kilbride, Ayrshire, and Virginia, daughter of Mr Peter Harrison, of Weston, Avon, and Mrs Barbara Horne, of Norwood, London.

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TEL: 071 481 4000

FAX: 071 481 9313

## PERSONAL COLUMN

In your teaching you must show integrity and seriousness, and give sound instruction to which some can take exception.

Times 2: 7.8

## BIRTHS

ADAMS - On 29 December 1992 to Geraldine and Mark their first son Ashleigh Spencer. Born 6lb 8oz.

ALDERLEY - On December 29th, 1992, to Rachel and John their first son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

BOOTH - On Christmas Eve in Farnborough, to Lisa and Henry, a daughter, Laura. Born 7lb 10oz.

CARTY-SHEPHERD - On October 30th to Margaret and Terence a daughter, Charlotte. Born 7lb 10oz.

CASSELL - On Thursday 24th December, at Princess Margaret Hospital, to Julia and Ian, a daughter, Emily. Born 7lb 10oz.

BRIDGEMAN - On December 29th 1992 to Julie and Ian Temple-Richardson and Anne, a son, Al, a brother for Omar.

EDWARDS - On December 29th, to Sharon and Richard, a daughter, Jennifer Ann. Born 7lb 10oz.

GAFFNEY - On December 17th, to Helen and Ray, a son, Frederick.

HERVEY - On Friday 18 December to Susan and Tim, a daughter, Emily. Born 7lb 10oz.

KOOPS - On December 24th 1992, at St Catherine's Hospital, to John and Jane, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

LIGHTFOOT - To Liz and Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, to Lisa and John, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

MURRAY THREPLAND - On Monday December 28th 1992, to Tania and Robert, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

PHILLIPS - On 29th December, at St John's Hospital, to Emma (nee Windham) and Simon, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

ROBINSON - On December 23rd, to James and Nicky, a daughter, Emily. Born 7lb 10oz.

STEELE - On December 20th to Sophia and Timothy, a daughter, Emily. Born 7lb 10oz.

THOMPSON - On December 30th 1992, to Alan and Lisa, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

WAINWRIGHT - On December 28th, at the Portland Hospital, to Monica and John, a son, James. Born 7lb 10oz.

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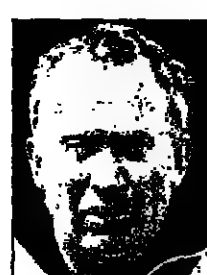
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Hong Kong faces more turmoil in its markets



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Demi Moore leads the hunt for A Few Good Men



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Keith Fletcher warns against complacency

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# THE TIMES 2

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31 1992

## Store wars break out for 1993

### Tesco and Sainsbury meet head-to-head on prices

By PATRICIA TEHAN

SAINSBURY'S and Tesco are to turn the screw on their weaker competitors Gateway and Asda this weekend with the start of a supermarket price war offering a range of discounts of up to 50 per cent on hundreds of their products.

David Sainsbury, who took over as chairman from his cousin Lord Sainsbury at the beginning of November, and Sir Ian MacLaurin, Tesco's long-serving chairman, are prepared to sacrifice profit margin in this latest battle in the highly competitive food retailing market.

Sainsbury's started the contest yesterday saying it can afford to make what it calls its "biggest and best ever package of price cuts" because it is in a strong position after beating Christmas sales targets. Sainsbury's is to cut prices on 750 items from Sunday with reductions between 15 per cent and 50 per cent.

Tesco hit back with an accusation that "Sainsbury's has to do something about prices because its prices are at the top end", but then announced a promotion on over 1,000 items from Monday.

Tesco said: "Our promotional programme has always been at least as competitive as that of Sainsbury's and we anticipate that next week will be no different." The promotion includes over 100 reductions of more than 33 per cent, with some at half price.

The move will put immense pressure on Lescage, parent of the Gateway supermarket chain, which last week said it was negotiating a financial restructuring with its banks. Lescage has debts of around £1.3 billion. Two weeks ago the group, a leveraged buy-out vehicle for Gateway, disclosed it was suffering deep financial difficulties and asked its banks for a standstill agreement.

A Gateway spokeswoman

Massive discounts on a wide range of foods by market leaders Sainsbury's and Tesco will put pressure on their weaker supermarket rivals from next week

said it too would run a New Year promotion, with price cuts of up to 40 per cent on over 100 items. She said: "Gateway runs promotions every day of the week, every week of the year." She described the Sainsbury's price cuts as "media hype".

Asda, at the end of the first six months of a three-year recovery plan, could also suffer. It pledged yesterday to keep its food prices down.

Paul Dowling, Asda's corporate affairs director, said: "We are and will remain the

Sainsbury	10.6
Tesco	8.4
Co-op	7.5
Argyll (incl Sainsbury)	7.7
Asda	6.2
Gateway	4.3
Morrisons	3.3
Kwik Save	1.6
Morrisons	1.6
Waitrose	1.6
Isle of Wight Food	1.2
William Low	0.6

(Source: Institute of Grocery Distributors - figures 1991 sales of £20 bn)

lowest price national supermarket. Our food pricing is about every day low pricing, not seasonal gimmicks."

Mr Dowling said Asda will do what it has to do to remain the lowest-priced supermarket. Asda's January sale, primarily on non-food items, started on Sunday with price cuts on more than 1,500 items.

The news sent food retailing shares spiralling down. Asda shares lost 3.4 per cent of their value, falling to 56½p; Argyl Group which owns Sainsbury's fell 5.2 per cent to 398p; Kwik

Save, the leading discount retailer, lost 2.7 per cent to 784p; J Sainsbury fell 2.4 per cent to 561p; and Tesco, seen as less able to afford to discount prices than Sainsbury's, fell 5.6 per cent to 251p.

Tony MacNeary, food retailing analyst at County NatWest, said the profitability and earnings per share of the major food retailers is not likely to be damaged by the price cuts. He said the promotions will damage the Co-op, the independents and the corner shops. However, he said, Tesco is more exposed than Sainsbury's as "it is already having a hard enough time" in the recession. He said Tesco "has been struggling to keep up with the pace that Sainsbury's has been setting."

In September, Tesco admitted it was being outperformed by Sainsbury's. It revealed it had a like-for-like sales trend of minus 1 per cent.

These January sales echo the supermarket price war started by Sainsbury last January that turned nasty as the food giants battled for market share. Mr MacNeary said: "The last thing Gateway wants to do is to cut prices, it needs the cash flow."

Sainsbury yesterday announced a promotion on 500 items from Monday, combined with a cut-price holiday promotion with Thomson based on its till receipts.

The moves will put the pressure on Kwik Save, Britain's leading discount supermarket, which averages discounts of between 10-15 per cent on the others.

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Stock market, page 24



Fighting back: Tesco's Ian MacLaurin will match offers



Challenger Tesco retaliates with cuts from 1,000 items in 'a programme at least as competitive as Sainsbury's'



Fresh offensive: David Sainsbury leading the charge



Sainsbury's will cut up to 50 per cent off 750 items in its 'biggest and best package of price cuts'

### BUSINESS TODAY

#### HARD WORDS



Shares in Pentos fell by a quarter after the books and office furniture group gave warning that profits would be below market expectations  
Page 21

#### FEAST ENDS

The stock market's record-breaking run came to a halt with shares in food retailers in the firing line amid fears of a price war  
Page 24

#### STAR IS BORN



BTR was the star of the Tempus 1992 selection with a rise of 37 per cent, reflecting the benefits of the Hawker Siddeley takeover  
Page 23

#### TWIN PEAKS



In the City, SG Warburg topped the list of corporate financial advisers in 1992, working on the two largest deals  
Page 22

US dollar 1.5130 (+0.0100)  
German mark 2.4408 (+0.0071)  
Exchange index 78.3 (+0.3)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share 2170.9 (-7.9)  
FT-SE 100 2832.5 (-15.3)  
New York Dow Jones 3315.43 (+4.59)\*  
Tokyo Nikkei Arge 16924.95 (-360.69)

London: Bank Base: 7%  
3-month interbank: 7%  
9-month interbank: 6%  
US: Prime Rate: 6%  
Federal Funds: 2%  
3-month Treasury Bills: 3.13-3.11%  
30-year bonds: 102%  
\* 12-month

London: New York  
E: \$1.5130 E: \$1.5125  
E: DM2.4425 E: DM1.5145  
E: SFR2.2098 E: SFR1.4390  
E: FF13.5005 E: FF13.5000  
E: Yen118.57 E: Yen124.50  
E: Index: 78.3 E: Index: 86.2  
E: ECU: 16.80140 E: ECU: 16.811107  
E: ECU: 246.781 E: ECU: 246.781  
London Forex market close

London: FTSE 100  
AM 3322.30 PM 3322.30  
Close 3322.30  
219.70-219.53  
New York: Comex \$ 333.15-333.65\*

Brent (Jan) \$17.95/bbl (\$17.85)

RPL: 138.7 November (1987-100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

### Business New Year honours

## Kingfisher chief knighted

By JON ASHWORTH

GEOFFREY Mulcahy, the retailer who has been leading the fight to keep shops open on Sunday, has been awarded a knighthood. He joins Bob Clarke, of United Biscuits, and a host of fellow business leaders who have been honoured in the New Year's honours list.

Sir Geoffrey, chairman and chief executive of Kingfisher, the group that owns Woolworths, B&Q, Superdrug and Comet, has been knighted for services to the retail industry, but described his honour as "a team effort". B&Q has been testing the courts in an attempt to end confusion over the Sunday trading laws. "It's in everyone's interest to see this uncertainty resolved", Sir Geoffrey said.

Sir Robert, 62, chairman of United Biscuits (Holdings), has been knighted in recognition of 40 years' service to the food industry. He has served on food industry trade bodies since the mid-sixties and took UB into continental Europe.

John "Chips" Keswick, chairman of Hambros Bank, receives a knighthood for services to banking. Born in Eton, he was appointed Hambros chairman in 1986 and became joint deputy chairman of Hambros plc in 1990.

Christopher Lewinton, chairman and chief executive of TI Group, the engineering and aerospace company, is knighted for services to engineering. Sir Christopher led TI to victory in its £485 million takeover bid for Dowty Group in the summer.

Geoffrey Inkin, chairman of the Cardiff Bay Development



Three for accolade: Kingfisher's Mulcahy, top, Keswick of Hambros Bank, left, and Clarke of United Biscuits

Corporation, is knighted for public service in Wales. Sir Geoffrey is chairman of the Land Authority for Wales.

There is a knighthood, too, for Wilfrid "CW" Newton, chairman and chief executive of London Transport and chairman of London Underground. Sir Wilfrid, 63, was previously group managing director and chief executive of

jointly founded Murray Johnstone, the investment firm, as a spin-off from Robert Fleming. He is still the firm's non-executive chairman.

Paul Nicholson, who succeeded his father, Douglas, as chairman of Vaux Group in 1976, is knighted for services to industry and to the public in northeast England. Sir Paul is a director of Northern Electric and chairman of the Tyne and Wear Development Corporation.

Christopher Bland, chairman of LWT Holdings since 1983, receives a knighthood for his services to the community. Sir Christopher, 54, is chairman of the Hammer-smith and Queen Charlotte's Hospitals Special Health Authority.

Business leaders to receive CBEs include Frank Barlow of Pearson, Clinton Silver of Marks and Spencer and David Wigglesworth, former head of the CBI's economic situation committee. Martin Taylor, vice chairman of Hanson, joins the list along with Edwin Foden, chairman and chief executive of ERF (Holdings), the truck company, and Roger Corley, managing director of Clinical Medical, the insurance group.

John Jarvis, of Jarvis Hotels, is appointed a CBE together with Bill Morrison, chairman of the Auditing Practices Board, Christopher Sharp, managing director of Northern Rock building society, and Peter Dean, deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

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Full list, pages 8-9  
Leading article, page 17  
Sports award, page 40

## Company failures leap by 31%

By PATRICIA TEHAN

THE number of business failures soared 31 per cent to nearly 63,000 this year, as companies were pushed under by the burden of bad debt.

Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group that compiled the figures, said the number of failures is likely to grow for the next two years, as the recession continues its stranglehold on British firms. London and the south east of England were hardest hit, accounting for one in three of the 62,767 business failures in Britain and one in every two limited company liquidations.

The Treasury said the figures reflected what has already happened in the economy and not prospects for the future.

The D&B figures show that the rate of growth of business failures has slowed from 65 per cent in 1991. The pace of liquidations of larger companies slowed from 49 per cent to 11 per cent, helped by their success in cutting costs, postponing investment and delaying payments.

However, D&B said that this success hit smaller firms, as shown by a 47 per cent increase in bankruptcies among sole traders, partnerships and associates.

Philip Somerville, survey manager for D&B, said that business failures have still not reached their post-recession peak.

He expects larger firms to continue with cost cutting, which will continue to bring pain to smaller companies. He does not expect the number of failures to fall until after 1994.

END THE YEAR ON A DRY NOTE.

A glass of dry, chilled Tio Pepe. A rather good way to celebrate the passing of a rather bad year. And, strangely enough, when followed by a second glass, even a year like '92 doesn't seem all bad.

**GONZALEZ BYASS**  
The World's Finest Sherry

CHAMPIONED BY THE WORLD'S LEADING SHERRY COMPETITION



# Takeover fees fall to eight-year low

By Neil Bennett  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE City's merchant banks have further job losses and cost-cutting, takeover fees have fallen to their lowest level for eight years in 1992. The value of public takeover bids has also slumped, as companies have avoided doing deals in the recession.

Annual figures from *Acquisitions Monthly*, the specialist takeover magazine, show that the value of completed public bids in Britain fell by a quarter, to £7.5 billion, this year. That compares with a peak of £55 billion in 1989.

The City's banks, accountants and solicitors collected fees of only £110 million from these takeovers, a fall of 24 per cent from 1991 and only an eighth of the revenue they earned in 1989. Fees have fallen back to 1984 levels, and are not adequate to cover the high fixed costs of many banks.

Philip Healey, *Acquisitions Monthly's* editor, estimates that 200 corporate financiers lost their jobs this year. "That is a conservative estimate," he said. "While many of the redundancies were made by

the value of bids and mergers slumped in 1992 but S G Warburg leap-frogged rivals to top the table of corporate advisers after working on the two largest deals of the year

second-line finance houses, more than a few were executed by the blue chip banks as well. But they all planned and executed their lay-offs with the utmost discretion."

The figures show that newly formed corporate finance boutiques had a bad year, with the exception of Hambro Magan. Mr Healey forecast that unless takeover activity recovered, many boutiques might not survive until 1994. Lloyds has decided to close its merchant banking subsidiary owing to lack of business.

Merchant banks are cold-calling potential corporate clients, offering them deals. Companies are doing much takeover work in-house, to save on fees, and are shopping around the City for the most competitive rates.

The league table of corporate finance advisers shows that the City's traditional houses are weathering recession most successfully; new-

comers are finding it difficult to generate business. S G Warburg topped the list in 1992, up from fourth position the year before.

Warburg worked on six deals, worth a total of £7.5 billion. These included the two largest of the year, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's £3.7 billion acquisition of Midland, and Reed International's £3.1 billion merger with Elsevier of Holland.

Schroders maintained its number two position, and also topped the table for the most deals in the year. The bank worked on nine bids, worth £4.09 billion. These also included the Midland bid, and Lloyds Chemists' £90 million sale to Macarthy.

Morgan Grenfell, last year's champion, fell to fourth place, but there was a strong performance from Samuel Montagu, which rose from thirteenth to third position, thanks once again to its work on the offer for Midland, its parent.

A surprising feature of the table is the disappearance of American advisers, which in earlier years have had high positions.

Many smaller British and European houses — including Smith New Court, Credit Lyonnais Laing, ABN Amro, and Albert & Sharp — reappeared, however. Hambro rose nine places to 11; Charteredhouse reached 18th position, up three.

## TOP 10 MERCHANT BANKS IN 1992

Rank	Bank	Rank last year	No of deals	Value (£m)
1	SG Warburg	4	6	7,548
2	Schroders	5	9	3,840
3	Samuel Montagu	13	5	2,406
4	Morgan Grenfell	1	9	1,002
5	NIM Rothschild	7	6	976
6	BZW	17	6	609
7	Lazard	16	2	570
8	Cazenove	12	6	570
9	Baring Brothers	10	6	326
10	Heinworth Benson	8	6	326

# Warning knocks Pentos

By Colin Campbell



"Sudden drop in orders": Terry Maher, chairman

SHARES of Pentos, the books and office furniture group, dropped by a quarter to 52p, then recovered to 56p. The lurch followed a warning from the company that 1992 profits "will be significantly below market expectations".

Terry Maher, chairman, added that the level of the final dividend, which was 2.05p a share in 1991, would be considered in the light of trading at the time of the preliminary profits announcement in March.

He blamed the likely poor 1992 outcome on a further, and sudden, drop in orders since mid-September for office furniture, and a poor Christmas market for Athena Galleries.

Analysts have been expecting Pentos to report pre-tax profits of between £13 million and £15 million for the year to today, compared with £15.2 million the company earned in 1991.

Now they are predicting a figure of about £5 million once the group has accounted for reorganisation costs and other items that will be taken above the line.

Pentos owns Ryman, the stationery, Widing office equipment stores and Dillons bookshops.

Overheads have been cut in the two poorly performing divisions, and gearing is likely to be above 50 per cent.

Pentos said trading at Dillons and Ryman, including Widing, continued to be satisfactory, but that markets for its other divisions had weakened sharply in the final quarter of the year.

At the interim stage, Pentos paid an unchanged dividend of 0.7p a share after reporting that pre-tax profits had fallen from £2.9 million to £2.4 million.

## THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Unit	Offer	Yld	Unit	Offer	Yld	Unit	Offer	Yld	Unit	Offer	Yld
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## Cut-price jitters at the checkouts

One day, stores shares jump on the stock market because people are flocking to buy cut-price bargains. Next day, supermarket shares fall because the checkout kings are going to have a binge of January discounts. Confusion was greatest among traders in Marks and Spencer, which has a foot in both camps and whose shares duly rose and fell in the passing week. The contrast is understandable. For stores, the pace of consumer spending is most important. In the higher rated supermarket business, overall sales are taken for granted. The keys are margins and market shares.

The sector has been growing nervous despite some sterling performances during the recession, when net operating margins at J Sainsbury, Tesco and Argyl's Sainsbury have continued to widen. Anxiety is partly due to the generally high share ratings, but also to nagging long-term doubts. Superstore openings are approaching saturation point, even if they never reach it because new products and services are introduced, ranging from in-store bakeries to Sunday opening. At the opposite end are fears that the rival top-notch supermarkets might be vulnerable to plainer discount retailers such as Kwik Save. The leaders, having squeezed traditional independents, have been bolstered by their ability to take business from weaker big chains such as Asda's Gateway or, until recently, Asda.

Sainsbury, which managed to get in first with price cuts, has reassessed itself as market leader to the extent that its shares fell by less than half the drops of more than 5 per cent registered at Tesco and Argyl's. Gateway, which has never recovered from its leveraged takeover, is inevitably marked as the biggest potential loser. The falling status of Tesco is more worrying for a sector that has so far managed to disguise its vulnerability to the property market. Having raced up to vie neck and neck with Sainsbury, Tesco shows signs of tiredness, notably in sales growth from existing stores. The rush into Sunday trading looked a sign of weakness rather than expansion. Tesco sees its fall from grace, which has brought a much reduced stock market rating despite strong earnings and dividend growth, as purely temporary, perhaps due to timing of initiatives and a throwback from its old image.

As yet, there is little reason to see the latest round of seasonal price cuts as the start of a price war that none of the participants wants. The effects will, however, be watched with eagle eyes to see if Tesco really has weakened or whether it will prove to be the pioneer of a more general slowing of profit growth.

## Spain dares

As candidates to succeed Robin Leigh-Pemberton as Governor of the Bank of England await the final call, they may wonder how different life might be if they were in line to run the Bank of Spain. The Spanish government has opted to give its central bank control of monetary policy on Bundesbank lines, taking stable prices as the test for setting interest rates and controlling money supply, with support for government policies conditional on them also meeting that test.

Nothing similar is likely to happen in Britain, not least because Britain has thankfully abandoned any inclination to keep up with the Maastricht timetable for monetary union inside the ERM. Vassalship must have been a relief for Mr Leigh-Pemberton. Without a single currency, the critical issue in central bank independence is management of the exchange rate. Any Governor saddled with the exchange rate at which Britain entered the ERM would have been tied to a bed of nails, certain only to reap the entire blame for all that followed. Outside the mark zone, independence would make more sense.

Sino-British quarrels have hauled the colony from its economic heights of 11 months ago. Lulu Yu asks where they will lead in 1993

Who would have thought 1992 would end this way for Hong Kong? The year started with a bang. The economy went from strength to strength. The stock and property markets recorded healthy gains. Inflation was reined in. We had a new governor whom everybody liked. And we were going to have a new airport after all.

Eleven months later, things are in tatters. Hong Kong is gripped by political crisis. Business confidence is severely shaken. Economic fundamentals are in jeopardy. The outlook is worse than in the days before the colony's future was sealed by Britain and China in 1984.

The uncertainties caused by the Sino-British quarrel will follow Hong Kong into 1993, a year Chinese fortune-tellers say will bring good luck and prosperity. Some are cynical about such predictions, but many will agree with the following:

□ Hong Kong will continue to benefit from the reforms in China.

□ Financial markets will have a roller-coaster ride in reaction to the political climate.

□ The economy will hinge on the renewal of most favoured nation status for China.

There is a large degree of consensus on the cause of the Sino-British dispute, which started when Governor Chris Patten proposed democratic reforms and intensified when China threatened to tear up all business contracts, including the one that promises a capitalist lifestyle for Hong Kong after 1997. Britain has taken the threats in its stride and refused to kowtow to China's demands. Peking has since attacked Jardine Matheson, the largest and oldest British group in the colony.

Norman Miners, a professor at Hong Kong University, said: "China is obviously annoyed. Mr Patten is acting contrary to the way British and Hong Kong governments have acted in the past, which is never to criticise China in public and never to appeal to public opinion."

The community is divided on how Hong Kong should get out of the impasse. The reform-minded say it is the last chance for democracy. The money-minded worry about the deteriorating stock market. They want more pragmatism in dealing with Hong Kong's future master, pointing out that whatever changes are installed could be dismantled by China after 1997. Allen Lee, Hong Kong's senior legislative councillor, said: "If this row and impasse continue I really think Hong Kong will go down the drain. Business confidence is already shaken."

Another legislator, Christine Loh,



Up in arms: Chris Patten's stand over democracy has caused economic sabre rattling from China

who heads a large company with publishing and property interests, strongly disagreed. "We should stand very firm," she said. "If we can't even determine some of the things that are clearly within the province of Hong Kong to determine, where is the autonomy after 1997?"

Many in the pro-China camp, including K S Wai, a public relations man, argue that it is too late for changes. Britain did not fight for more democratic reforms in 1984 or in 1990, when the Basic Law mini-constitution was promulgated, he says, and should not do anything now.

Emily Lau, another legislator and a prominent journalist, is disgusted with that argument. "It's never too late to turn to 6 million people, who have nowhere to go, who are stuck here. Can we tell them, sorry Jack, it's too late? If you're purged by the communists after 1997, it's too bad. I'm going to bail out, it's too late to help you. Can we say that to the people of Hong Kong?"

Businessmen and stockbrokers say there is no need to upset China, and

give Hong Kong democracy, when the colony has thrived without democracy for the past 95 years. They say there is no reason for China not to honour its promises or cause damage to the colony.

They argue that Hong Kong is too important as China's gateway to foreign trade and investments: it employs 3 million people in Guangdong province, accounts for 40 per cent of China's exports and is the conduit for 70 per cent of its foreign investment. China has large investments in Hong Kong's property, stock and banking markets, they point out, and takeover of the colony after 1997 will be a model for unification with Taiwan.

An unlikely alliance of big business and communist cadres has formed in Hong Kong round these beliefs. Mr Patten's initiatives are blamed for the stock market falls and the uncertainties surrounding Hong Kong's airport, port and other long-term contracts. The critics want the government to withdraw his contro-

versial proposals for electoral reforms, which are due to be debated and passed in some form in February.

"If Patten's proposals are passed in the Legislative Council, I see a situation where all hell will break loose," Mr Lee said. "The Hong Kong and British governments must consider whether the Chinese words are empty threats, whether they mean business, whether that's detrimental to Hong Kong's future."

Ms Loh said: "Let's not just look at what the Hang Seng index does on a day-to-day basis. That's only one barometer of confidence. The confidence has been knocked because of what has been said by China. People are concerned that Hong Kong will not be able to enjoy a high degree of autonomy and, if that is the case, the business environment may be changed."

Marshall Byres, of Ernst & Young, the accountant, called on the Hong Kong government not to delve into politics. "The economy is still booming," he said. "If the political pressure is relieved, the economy will look after

itself. The concept of *laissez faire* must continue as much as possible."

Robert Broadfoot, of the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Company, sees no quick end to the political deadlock but believes the economy will survive. "The longer it drags on," he said, "the more businesses will grow accustomed to the fact that it is indeed possible to separate the business risk from the political risk."

One development is likely. International perception will shift for Hong Kong and China. Historically, banks and credit agencies have considered China's credit risk to be greater than Hong Kong's. Now it is being reassessed. In early December, Standard and Poor's put Hong Kong on its Creditwatch, a signal the agency may lower the colony's credit rating.

David Tang, an executive of Cluff Resources, the UK oil group, said the 1997 risk factor was exaggerated. "People regard it as some sort of a remarkable point in the history of Hong Kong. What they don't see is, it is actually a continuation of Hong Kong into China. People regard 1997 as a risk. What I don't understand is how multinational companies can invest millions in China and yet say Hong Kong is unstable because it is going to be part of China."

He said the current instability was a good opportunity to make money. "Hong Kong has lived through major instabilities and people have cashed in on those. Many billionaires today made their money when there was a real downturn, they bought when nobody was buying. It is not something that is necessarily bad."

Without politics overshadowing the economy, Hong Kong is indeed a good place to invest. Taxes are low, the treasury is flush with cash. Growth is expected to be 5.5 to 6 per cent in 1993. The speculative property market has cooled down to reasonable levels, and the stock market has retreated substantially from its peak 6,400 level, creating strong buying opportunities.

"We will have a good year in 1993 because we are starting from a depressed base," said Howard Gorges, of South China Securities. "I wouldn't be surprised to see a level of 8,000 on the Hang Seng index." A European broker asked: "Where else can you buy companies that are expected to have earnings growth of 20 to 30 per cent that are now trading at ten times?"

Analysts say China play stocks will continue to be the stars. "People are looking at companies which benefit from the growth of China as a whole rather than Hong Kong," said Robert Thomas, of Jardine Fleming Investment Management. "These have done well and probably the support will continue."

But no matter what stocks are traded, the political risk will be high. Hong Kong has seen the market fall 1,000 points in a single week in December. "You can look at charts, but when you are talking about emotions and theoretically there is no support," said Eugene Yang, of Standard Chartered Securities.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

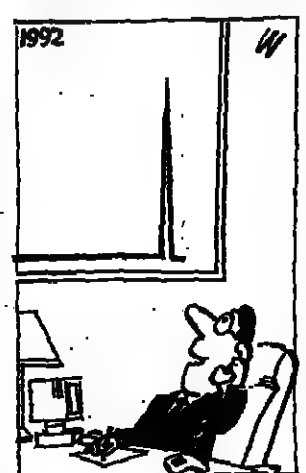
### Cartwright makes music

SHOULD Chris Cartwright head of equities at Paribas Capital Markets, the London arm of the French bank, ever tire of the City, he has a new career at his feet. Cartwright, a rhythm guitarist and vocalist, treated himself to a prized Gretsch guitar after winning a five-figure sum from a bet on the outcome of the last general election, and has formed a band, *Way Back When*, which is now accepting bookings. "I put an ad in the local paper for fellow musicians and the phone didn't stop ringing," Cartwright, a former Wood Mackenzie partner, says. "We have several bookings already, including a 21st birthday party at Farnborough Football Club in Kent, and the Knockholt PTA." His moonlighting activities are clearly not affecting his day job, however. Indeed, some of his colleagues failed to recognise him, dad in jeans and a silk shirt, when he made a guest appearance with another in-house Paribas band, Tired and Emotional, comprising Freddie Yearley, an equities trader, and Paula O'Brien, derivatives secretary, at this year's Paribas Christmas party in the Natural History Museum. "Hi Ho Silver Lining had them screaming for more, but lots of them failed to recognise me," said Cartwright.

**Juliet Bravo**  
SALESMEN and market makers at Smith New Court, who pride themselves on being more right than wrong, came badly unstruck on one

book they were running just before Christmas. This book was on the anticipated weight of a baby born to John Aldersley, pharmaceutical analyst-turned-specialist salesman, and his wife Rachel on December 23. Given that noted *bon viveur* Aldersley is estimated to weigh in at about 16½ stone, making his 9½ stone frame look decidedly chunky, and that his wife was once a policewoman, many of his colleagues were happy to buy at 8½ lbs. The baby, Juliet Daisy, eventually weighed in at 10½ lbs 2oz and cost most of them dear.

**Spirited back**  
HIGH spirits got somewhat out of hand when Richard Head, managing director of the interest rate options section of Prebon Yamane, the money and foreign exchange



"Yes, we had quite a good Christmas, thank you."

broker, took a party of colleagues to lunch at Baltons, a wine bar and restaurant in Mincing Lane. After the revelers had left the restaurant, proprietor Chris "Chubs" Haines realised that they had taken his bookings diary with them, leaving him clueless as to who had booked which tables in the final — and extremely busy — 48-hour run-up to Christmas. "It was an absolute catastrophe," says Haines. Catastrophe was averted, when the following lunchtime a well-dressed gentleman in what looked like an Armani raincoat came rushing in, put the diary on the counter and rushed out again, a relieved Haines reveals.

### Mondeo musings

ONE extravagant New Year's eve party now not taking place is the party originally planned by Ford at the Hilton to unveil his new Mondeo car, which will replace the Sierra. Ford called off the event three weeks ago, fearing it was inappropriate after its announcement of record losses and 4,000 UK redundancies. Motoring correspondents have, however, still been given a preview at a more private function at the Dorchester. The excuse for the celebration was a farewell party for Harry Calton, public relations manager, who is joining Aston Martin. Motoring journalists, still under an embargo not to reveal specific details, do not seem overly excited by the new model. "It's a cross between the Honda Accord and the Vauxhall Cavalier. It looks just like any other four door saloon," says one.

CAROL LEONARD

## Selection survives ravages of recession

A YEAR ago, our Tempus team picked half a dozen shares double-wrapped in health warnings. Warning number one dealt with the essential silliness of annual newspaper share tipping exercises. At best, they are benign seasonal fun. But they have as much right to be taken seriously as party-poppers and neon-fashing revolving bow ties. No investor in his right mind would buy shares with the express intention of holding them for exactly 12 months any more than he would forgo the prudence of a diversified portfolio.

Warning number two said that with an election in the offing, monetary policy dancing to a Bundesbank tune and economic recovery proving elusive, stock picking was more than usually difficult. More unkind readers might say that the quality of the health warnings was better than the quality of the share selections. The outcome, however, was by no means ruinous though for much less effort a building society deposit would have produced almost as much reward.

Tempus said, correctly, that during 1991 investors had paid a price for anticipating economic recovery far too early and that the by now almost obligatory January rally might well be wiped out later. There was indeed a modestly buoyant start to the year. But while the City was successful in detecting green shoots of recovery, the electorate remained far more myopic. Worse, the opinion polls failed to spot growth of any colour and, until election day dawned, John Major seemed set for defeat. By then, the



Baumman: delivered

early share gains had evaporated and the market was well below its New Year heights. The post-election euphoria that followed the Conservative re-election lasted only a few weeks. Confidence was crushed by a string of corporate disasters and almost daily evidence that the economic medicine was not working. Businessmen knew that if it was not hurting it was not working. But they longed to know what to do when it was hurting plenty but still not working. The answer came in September, on Black Wednesday, but not before the post-election gains were dissipated and the broad market indicators almost 10 per cent down since January.

The sterling crisis blew itself out after withdrawal from the exchange-rate mechanism, and share prices took off at the prospect of lower interest rates and growth-led policies. Gains have been spectacular. The FT-SE 100 index surged almost 20 per cent between mid-September and Christmas. By then, it

	Jan 1992 price	Year end price	% gain or loss
SmithKline A	450	504	+ 12
Medeva	228	220	- 3.5
Reuter	1,032	1,410	+38.7
Cable & Wireless	590	693	+17.5
BTR	398	547	+37.4
Bus Technology	36	20	-44.4
Average gain			+ 9.3

\* To December 24. • Adjusted for split

was up just over 13 per cent on the year. As a group, the Tempus selections fared less well, gaining just over 9 per cent. The collective record, however, was badly dented by a single stock, Business Technology, now being revamped by Tony Berry, former chairman of Blue Arrow. Its price plunged 44 per cent after harsh criticism of Mr Berry in a trade department report and moves by that department to have him disqualified from being a company director. Mr Berry rejects the DTI findings, but the affair damaged confidence in Business Technology shares.

Tempus picked the stock (as speculative) on the grounds that Mr Berry has a proven record in galvanising smaller companies and appears to be making giant strides at Business Technology. The fall was a reminder that in investment, image is all and that, when thrown, mud tends to stick.

The other let down was Medeva, the pharmaceuticals

group being assembled under Bernard Taylor, a former Glaxo executive. Medeva revealed profits 234 per cent higher while earnings per share climbed almost 150 per cent. But the shares slipped 3.5 per cent over the year. Medeva was a casualty of the conservatism that grips investors at troubled moments. Despite a rise from 228p to 300p early in the year, the market slump when election fever abated saw Medeva shares halve while other glamorous rated shares did likewise. However, the company has a considerable following, as the share recovery later in the year showed. A stock to watch.

Pharmaceutical shares like Medeva and SmithKline Beecham were part of the Tempus strategy to pick shares in sectors likely to deliver earnings per share growth regardless of a sluggish economy. SmithKline's A shares rose only 12 per cent, though due to adverse currency movements affecting American profits and a general American-led disenchantment with

growth shares. This phenomenon and the resulting rush into recovery stocks on Wall Street threatened to harm the vast summer placing of shares in Wellcome. But while SmithKline, where Bob Baumman is chief executive, delivered the goods, many so-called recovery shares simply failed to beat the severity of the American recession.

Reuter simply repaid investors' faith in a company whose principal markets continue to make headway. The shares have been in overdrive since sterling's devaluation, which boosts dollar revenues. With the shares at about £14 by Christmas, talk of a share split encouraged further speculative buying.

Cable and Wireless shares, also chosen for recession-proof growth, were in a down trend for half the year. Prospects of fruitful ties with AT&T, of America, vanished as C&W forged links with United instead. City misunderstanding over restructuring costs announced in spring also hurt the shares. But they gained 40 per cent in the final quarter on currency considerations and the sale of a stake in Mercury to Bell Canada, to end almost 18 per cent up on the year.

BTR gained much from the acquisition of Hawker Siddley, and its share price likewise. BTR shares were especially in favour after Black Wednesday, when the potential translation gains from its large overseas operation were absorbed by the market. Their rise of 37 per cent made them the star of the Tempus 1992 selection and they remain a splendid long-term hold.







ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 14. Dealings end today. <sup>5</sup>Contango day January 4. Settlement day January 11. <sup>6</sup>Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.



# Power to review council's care plan

**In re B (Minors)**

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Kennedy  
(Reported December 17)

The Children Act 1989 empowered the court to review the long-term plans of a local authority for a child in its care.

The Court of Appeal so held in giving reasons for allowing, on December 10, an appeal by the guardian *ad litem* of three children from a decision of Judge Gossling, at Birmingham county court, in making an order authorising Birmingham City Council to refuse to allow contact between the children and their mother. The mother supported the appeal.

Mr James Munby, QC and Miss Mhairi McNab, neither of whom appeared below, for the guardian *ad litem*: Miss Joanna Hall, who did not appear below, for the mother. Mr Peter Horrocks for the council.

**LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS** said that there were two girls born on December 16, 1988 and July 3, 1990, and a boy, born on March 4, 1992.

On August 17, 1990 the two girls were left unattended and were made the subject of place of safety orders and, on August 23, interim care orders.

They returned to their mother in October but in November she again left them unattended and they were again placed with foster

parents. On December 3 they were placed with their present short-term foster mother. The juvenile court made the care orders on February 4, 1991.

After the birth of the boy the council arranged for the mother to go with the baby into a residential home.

After the making of a care order in respect of the boy she completed her period of assessment. She was able to leave the home with the baby and set up home with her own.

From about March she had been seeing the girls regularly and had had frequent unsupervised contact with them. She had cared for them on those visits successfully and the girls had enjoyed them.

The council made their application, under section 34(4) of the Children Act 1989, in order to be able to place the girls with prospective adopters. The mother opposed the application and hoped that the court might lead to rehabilitation and the return of the girls to her.

"(1) Where a child is in the care of a local authority, the authority shall ... allow the child reasonable contact with (a) his parents ..."

There was a presumption of continuing reasonable contact between the parent and the child in care unless and until a care order was made under section 34(4). "On an application made by the authority or the child, the court

may make an order authorising the authority to refuse to allow contact between the child and any person who is mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (d) of subsection (1) ..."

Mr Horrocks submitted that section 34(1) should be read to include a provision that a court ought not to make a contact order if the effect was to undermine or thwart the long-term plans of the local authority charged with the responsibility for the care of the child. He relied on the Court of Appeal decision in *In re S (a Minor)* [1991] 1 F.L.R. 1611.

Her Ladyship said that decisions based on section 12 of the Child Care Act which had been repealed might not be applicable to applications under section 34 of the 1989 Act and, consequently, the decision in *In re S* had to be read with considerable caution.

The present position of a child whose welfare was being considered under Part IV of the 1989 Act appeared to be that he would be placed in care unless the court had been satisfied that the threshold conditions in section 31 had been met and that it was better to make a care order than not to do so.

After the care order had been made the court had no continuing role in the future welfare of the child. The local authority had parental responsibility for the child under section 33(3). However,

issues relating to the child might come before the court for instance on applications for contact.

At the moment that an application came before the court, the court had a duty to apply section 1 of the Act which stated that when a court determined a question with respect to the upbringing of a child, the child's welfare became the court's paramount consideration.

Consequently, the court might have the task of requiring the local authority to justify their long-term plans to the extent that those plans excluded contact between parent and child.

In her Ladyship's view, the judge was in error in not appreciating that he was able, if he thought it right, to have another look at the matter as a possible future carer to give appropriate directions for assessments to be made. His conclusion that his hands were tied vitiated his exercise of discretion and his decision could not stand.

Their Lordships therefore had to decide whether the mother should be assessed as the potential carer of all three children.

Her Ladyship had come to the clear conclusion that not to involve the mother as the carer of the three children would be unfair to them.

**LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY** agreed.

Solicitors: Young & Lee, Birmingham; Hall-Wright & Birks, Birmingham; Mr Stewart Dobson, Birmingham.

# Solicitor's duty to beneficiary

**Kecskemeti v Rubens Rabin & Co**

Before Mr Justice Macpherson of Chancery  
(Judgment November 16)

A solicitor could owe a duty of care to a beneficiary named in a will in respect of advice given to a testator.

Mr Justice Macpherson of Chancery so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment for the plaintiff, Charles Andreas Kecskemeti, against Rubens Rabin & Co, that the company owed a duty of care to the plaintiff in respect of advice given to Charles Kecskemeti who had made a fresh will in 1981 revoking his earlier will made in 1974.

The executors of the 1981 will were Mr Stanley Rubens of Rubens Rabin & Co and another solicitor from a different firm, who was never the testator's legal adviser.

The beneficiaries were the testator's second wife, Eva, and the testator's son by his first wife, the plaintiff. The dispute revolved around two properties and their proceeds of sale.

The testator's intention was that when those properties were sold, the plaintiff should receive half of the proceeds of sale. However, when the will was made those properties were held as joint tenants by the testator and his second wife so that when the testator died the whole interest in

both of the properties passed on to Eva by way of survivorship.

Mr Bankim Thakral for the plaintiff; Mrs Teresa R. Peacocke for the defendants.

**MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON** said that the question was whether the defendants owed a duty of care to the plaintiff which could give rise to liability in negligence without there being any reliance by him upon the solicitor or his advice.

Under the case had been overruled or overturned by other authorities, the law was as set out in *Ross v Caunters* [1980] Ch 297. That decision had been subject to criticism.

What had become of *Ross v Caunters* as a result of the decision of the House of Lords in *Murphy v Brentwood District Council* [1991] 1 AC 398?

Mrs Peacocke submitted that that decision sounded the death knell of *Ross v Caunters* and that the decision of Mr Justice Turner in *White and Carter (Councils) Ltd v McGregor* [1962] AC 413, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Mrs Peacocke said, in effect, that *Ross v Caunters* was not good law and that his Lordship should depart from it.

His Lordship did not accept those propositions. It was perfectly true that *Murphy* had overruled *Dutton v Bognor Regis Urban District Council* [1972] 1 QB 373 and had departed from *Ans*

*London Borough Council* [1978] AC 728.

His Lordship discussed *Punjab National Bank v De Boynville and Others* [1992] 1 Lloyd's Rep 7 and *Caparo Industries plc v Dickman* [1990] AC 605 and said that, as *Dorset Yacht Co Ltd v Home Office* [1970] AC 1004 and other cases had shown, the law of negligence was incremental.

His Lordship did not believe that the House of Lords intended in *Murphy* to do more than knock out the type of case, of which there had been many, illustrated by *Dutton*.

Otherwise, why should Lord Oliver refer to *Ross v Caunters* without any evident disapproval? Similarly, in *Punjab National Bank v De Boynville*.

The present case was a classic example of a situation where the relationship was proximate and where it was fair, just and reasonable that the law should impose a duty of care upon the one party for the benefit of the other.

His Lordship was referred to a most useful passage in Rupert M. Jackson and John L. Powell's *Professional Negligence* (3rd edition (1992) pp317-326).

The authors examined the relevant cases, including the decision of Mr Justice Turner in *White and Carter* and concluded that, in spite of recent developments, "*Ross v Caunters* is probably good law."

Mr Thakral relied upon that expression of opinion, and his Lordship agreed with it.

Mr Justice Turner's decision was at present subject to appeal but, in his Lordship's judgment, there were important factual differences between his case and the instant case which might well justify the White decision which should not interfere with his Lordship's decision in favour of the plaintiff in the present case.

The great factual divide between the position of the plaintiff in *Ross v Caunters* from that of the plaintiff in *White* was at the heart of Mr Justice Turner's decision and, in his Lordship's judgment, a wholesale rejection of the decision in *Ross v Caunters*.

His Lordship did not accept Mrs Peacocke's broad assertion that if there was a duty in this case then such a duty must be owed generally to beneficiaries, whatever the circumstances and however far in the future they may be identifiable. *Ross v Caunters* defined a limited area within which a solicitor might be liable to persons who were not his clients.

Indeterminate classes of potential beneficiaries, or where there might be conflict, were different and had to be individually assessed.

Accordingly, in the circumstances of the present case the defendants did owe a duty of care to the plaintiff when advising the testator in 1981.

Solicitors: Nabarro Nathanson, Pinnent & Co.

# Widow's coal concession not a voluntary payment

**Regina v Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and Another, Ex parte Boulton**

Before Mr Justice Laws  
(Judgment December 11)

Payments made to a miner's widow by British Coal in lieu of concessional coal were not voluntary payments which could be disregarded in the calculation of housing and community charge benefit under Schedule 4 to the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1971) and Schedule 3 to the Community Charge Benefit (General) Regulations (SI 1989 No 1321).

Mr Justice Laws so held in the Queen's Bench Division rejecting an application by Frances Alice Boulton for judicial review of a decision by a review board of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council to confirm the council's calculation of her benefit.

Paragraph 13(1) of the 1987 Regulations provided that subject to certain exceptions the calculation of income for housing benefit purposes shall disregard ... £10.00 of any charitable payment or of any voluntary payment made or due to be made at regular intervals. The 1989 Regulations contained a similar provision for the calculation of community charge benefit.

Mr Jan Luba for the applicant; Mr Timothy Straker for Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council; Mr John Howell for the Secretary of State for Social Security.

**MR JUSTICE LAWS** said the applicant was the widow of a miner who used to receive nine tons of free coal a year. After his death in 1971 she had received five tons of coal a year.

In 1981 she had moved into gas-heated council accommodation and had since received cash

payments of £360 a year in lieu of coal.

She was entitled to housing and community charge benefit which were calculated taking into account the payment in lieu. In November 1990 she had sought to have her assessment reviewed. Her assessment was upheld both by the council's officers and by a review board.

The board had decided against the applicant essentially on the footing that the payments were not voluntary because the applicant as administratrix could enforce her husband's contractual entitlement to the coal on the principle in *Beswick v Beswick* [1968] AC 58.

In his Lordship's view, the board had not had before it sufficient material to permit it to decide the case on that basis.

He would proceed on the basis that the applicant was paid under the provisions of successive national agreements between British Coal and the National Union of Mineworkers and that she had no private law claim to the money.

**LORD HALSEBURY** in *Overseers of the Savoy v Art Union of London* [1896] AC 296 had distinguished two different senses of the word "voluntary": "the antithesis of something done under compulsion; but also ... the obtaining or giving of something without anything being obtained in return". There was no presumption in favour of either meaning as a matter of ordinary language since ordinary language embraced both.

If the word "voluntary" in the regulations was construed in the first sense it was difficult to see in what a sensible legislative purpose. Housing and community charge benefit were income-related and the broad intention was that they should be paid to persons demonstrably in need who were to be identified as

such by the level of their income.

The relevant schedules took out of the calculation of income sums in the recipient's hands which would otherwise fall within it. The presence of each of these sums was to be accounted for on the footing that it was created for some rational and identifiable purpose.

His Lordship could discern no sensible purpose in according a disregard to any regular payment which happened not to be legally enforceable. Charitable payments were to be disregarded so that bodies which provided charitable funds for the disadvantaged should be assured that their intended beneficiaries obtained the full fruits of their charity.

The effect of the regulations specifying both charitable and voluntary payments was to enable payments made were not made for the payer's own benefit to be brought within the scope of the disregard without the need to make fine distinctions between charitable and non-charitable payments.

The question whether a payment was voluntary was to be judged by looking at the volunteer not the recipient. The question was not whether the payee had any legal rights, but rather what the nature of the payment was from the volunteer's point of view.

His Lordship was unable to accept that British Coal got nothing back from the payments. It had entered into the national agreement in the interests of good labour relations, so as better to secure the willing services of its employees. As a matter of law the payments were not voluntary within the meaning of the relevant regulations.

Solicitors: Mr Russell Campbell, Croydon; Sharpe Pritchard; Solicitor, Department of Social Security.

# Confiscation order provisions are not retrospective

**In re B**

Before Mr Justice Schiemann  
(Judgment November 30)

As section 16 of the Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 was not retrospective in effect an application could not be made under that section to vary a confiscation order made under the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 prior to the 1990 Act coming into force, namely July 1, 1990.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in a reserved judgment given in open court before the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application by the receiver under section 16 of the 1990 Act to vary the confiscation order.

On January 26, 1990 prior to the enactment of the 1990 Act, the trial judge determined under section 12(2) of the 1986 Act, that B had benefited from drug trafficking and he assessed the value of B's proceeds of his drug trafficking as being £595,519.91. B disputed his ability to pay.

The judge determined that the amount which might be realised at time was £287,603.29 and a confiscation order was made for that sum.

Most of that amount had been paid by July 1, 1990 when section 16 had come into force.

# Justices must make an order

**K v H**

It was incumbent upon justices when invited to make a periodical payments order under section 1 to the Children Act 1989 in favour of a child which would embody an agreement by the father to pay £20 a week, then justices should make the order sought. Such an order was of benefit to the child in case of future difficulties and also had a useful effect.

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, so stated on December 2 when allowing an appeal by the mother from the High Court which had made no order on the application.

**THE PRESIDENT** said that the justices had erred when they concluded that section 1(5) of the 1989 Act applied.

The refusal to make the order in the terms sought did not afford any security.

The appeal would be allowed and the court would substitute an order that the father make periodical payments of £20 a week to the child.

His Lordship therefore concluded that Mr Justice Henry's order regarding costs was exercised in his jurisdiction in a manner which was not an abuse of power and the Divisional Court had no power to interfere with that order.

The jurisdiction of the court to oversee the order staying further proceedings was a different situation. The clear effect of the order was to remove any chance of the prosecution of Lord Spens on the charges proceeding again and was in accordance with the distinction made by Lord Justice Goff in *Belsham and Rundle* between a stay and an order "not to proceed without leave".

It was true that in the decided cases on stay the order to stay was made before the trial process before a jury began, whereas here there had been an abortive trial; but if that were to make an effective difference the jurisdiction of the court would rest on mere semantics.

The judge's order was intended to prevent there being any trial of Lord Spens on those charges in future. It was therefore not an order which was concerned with the conduct of such a trial. Applying the test from *Smalley* and following *Kandke* and *Belsham* the Divisional Court did have power to oversee the order.

In his Lordship's judgment the judge was wrong concerning section 17. That section was merely a piece of machinery to enable a judge instead of a jury to enter a verdict of not guilty where the

# Character of the accused

**Regina v Shaw**

Where there were two defendants, one of good character and one with previous convictions, following *R v Gibson* (1991) 93 Cr App R 91 it was usually advisable for the judge to say little, if anything, about the good character of the one, but if that one did insist on a full direction as to his or her good character it was difficult to see how that could be refused, even though it might lead to the necessity for separate trials even at that late stage.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nolan, Mr Justice Owen and Mr Justice Ward) so stated on November 20 in allowing an appeal by Deborah Ann Shaw against her conviction at Birmingham Crown Court (Judge Wilson and a jury of burglary).

**MR JUSTICE OWEN** said that the judge's direction as to the character of the case and it could hardly be doubted that the judge should have referred to the positive evidence of the appellant's good character.

The grounds of appeal were that there was no jurisdiction to order the Department of Health to re-engage the applicant who had been an employee of the Department of Social Security since the Department of Health was not the applicant's employer nor a successor of her employer nor an associated employer within the meaning of section 69(4) of the

Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 and no reasonable tribunal could have ordered re-engagement given the practical difficulties of finding suitable employment.

**LORD MESTON** for the Department of Health and the Department of Social Security; Mrs Bruce in person.

**MR JUSTICE TUCKER** said that the applicant started employment with the Department of Health and Social Security in 1977.

She subsequently suffered a stroke which left her seriously disabled and for substantial periods between June 1988 and May 1990 she was off work because of back pain.

In 1989 the department split into two: the Department of Health and the Department of Social Security. In April 1989 the applicant was formally advised that her employer was the Department of Social Security. In February 1990 she was given notice of compulsory retirement on the ground of ill health.

The applicant made a claim of unfair dismissal seeking re-engagement and naming the Department of Social Security as her employer. Surprisingly, the department did not contest the allegation of unfair dismissal but said that it was unable to re-engage the applicant and made an offer of compensation which she refused.

The Department of Health was not the applicant's employer at the time of the unfair dismissal, warranted an order for re-engagement by the Department of Health.

The appeal would be dismissed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Department of Health.

# Different department ordered to re-engage employee

**Department of Health v Bruce and Another**

Before Mr Justice Tucker, Mr D. G. Davies and Mrs M. E. Eley  
(Judgment December 4)

The Employment Appeal Tribunal upheld by a majority (Mr Justice Tucker dissenting) a decision of an industrial tribunal to order the Department of Health to re





**PUBLISHING page 28**  
Madonna: her book *Sex*,  
condemned by some,  
was among the biggest  
successes of 1992

# ARTS

**BOOKS page 29**  
Winston Churchill at the  
time of the Archangel  
fiasco in 1919. Norman  
Stone on a new study



**CINEMA:** the gloss is new, but **Geoff Brown** finds *A Few Good Men* old-fashioned

## Courting always stays in style

Although their visual sheen may be staggering, and their computer technology breaks new frontiers with special effects, when it comes to scripts and stories Hollywood movies have barely left the Stone Age. *A Few Good Men* (Odeon West End, 15) is as cocky and gleaming as its stars, Tom Cruise and Demi Moore: a film that begins as it means to proceed with a dazzling parade-ground ballet of marines at drill, guns lowered and raised like chorus girls' legs. Yet what lies behind these fireworks, the pin-ups strutting in tight-fitting naval uniforms? Just an old courtroom drama, no more, no less, with interrogations and histrionics that would be quite at home in *The Caine Mutiny* or the innumerable cases of Perry Mason.

As a first-time writer, Aaron Sorkin earns no prizes for originality. But he delivers familiar goods with a flourish. The script was first mounted on Broadway. Tom Hulce took the lead as Kaffee, an inexperienced, glib Navy lawyer suffering from the Famous Father Complex, who is appointed to defend two marines accused of murdering a platoon weaking. The sets were spare; the chief props, tables and chairs.

Hollywood, and director Rob Reiner, saw the potential immediately. Out went Hulce; in came Cruise, America's most affable heart-throb, and a good enough actor to bring off the legal jousting or the smouldering badinage with Demi Moore, the shapeliest of special defence counsel.

In place of bare tables and chairs, in came a well-contrived backdrop of Washington monuments, baseball practice, and flying visits to the Cuba base where the black deed was done. In came Jack Nicholson, too, deliciously



The defence counsel in informal consultation: Demi Moore and Tom Cruise in Rob Reiner's film version of Aaron Sorkin's *A Few Good Men*

stealing his few scenes as the gimlet-eyed colonel manning the bulwarks against Castro, who gave the accused leave to punish the victim through a do-it-yourself disciplinary action known in the services as a "Code Red".

Sorkin's script carries a heavy freight: there is much

talk about God, country and codes of honour. But Hollywood works its own alchemy. Any serious concerns get gobbled up by the spectacle of stars on parade, dressed to kill. For this is a film where clothes speak volumes. The government prosecution, anxious to hide the "Code Red" business,

dress in unbecoming khaki or combat green. The defence, by contrast, are breathtakingly crisp all-whites or deep navy blue enriched with gold braid. So attired, Cruise and Moore win their case even before they open their mouths.

Yet even this surface gloss

carries a subliminal message. Right from the opening shot of the marine corps' succulently polished shoes, this is a film seduced by America's defence establishment, like Tom Cruise's earlier venture, the odious *Top Gun*. Cruise's young pup of a lawyer may strike a maverick blow at the

establishment, but the system still stands proudly: it is only Jack Nicholson's grungy outpost at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, that lets down the Stars and Stripes. Impressively acted all down the line, and directed with much quiet skill, *A Few Good Men* is a devilishly seductive entertainment.

### TELEVISION REVIEW

## Good intentions are not enough

**A House for Pele**  
Channel 4

The film crew responsible for last night's Channel 4 documentary, *A House for Pele*, committed what is supposed to be the unpardonable sin. They became involved with their subjects, a family of street people living rough at Copacabana in Brazil, and decided to intervene in their lives.

They had a whip-round, collected enough to buy a tiny house in a shanty settlement, and gave it to Pele, his woman, and their two children. To be honest, the recipients did not appear especially delighted. They moved in, pottered around, held a barbecue, sang a song with their friends, and acquired a few sticks of furniture. But they never settled, and were soon back on the streets.

Good intentions had once again proved blind. But if the crew's generosity did nothing else, it transformed their film from a self-indulgent meander into something altogether more cogent. For half an hour Pele and his pals had been muttering that all they needed was somewhere to live; given a home, they quickly proved that their life on the streets was not the result of misfortune alone.

The film made a good pair with one broadcast a few months ago about a homeless woman who lives near Embankment Tube station in London. She too had had her chances, but opted in the end for the street life. Perhaps the homeless are so damaged that they can no longer handle good fortune; or perhaps — difficult for the well-meaning to imagine — they just prefer living the way they do and should be left alone to do it.

Certainly Pele seemed a survivor. His family washed their clothes under a fire hydrant, laid them out to dry on the flower beds along the beach, and emerged shining clean, as the poor of Latin America so often and so

astonishingly manage to do. They looked wholesome, and protected their two infants with a fierce pride, sleeping on top of them like birds for fear they would be stolen in the night.

They made a living hawking, washing cars, doing odd jobs and stealing when all else failed. "We're 'run-afers'," said one of Pele's friends. "We run after any work, anything to get money to keep clean and buy clothes. We're not beggars, we're sufferers." They told sad tales of their misfortunes, and went with quiet dignity when the police rounded them up, stuck them in a bus, and took them off to a remote corner of the city. The local middle-class disdained them: one woman snapped that the babies should be taken away and adopted, and their parents "castrated".

Pele's friends knew as soon as he moved into his tiny house, with pretty tile roof, that it would not work. The family found they could not sleep indoors. The neighbours, sensitive to the fine gradations of poverty, resented street people moving into their shanty. There was a suggestion that the previous owner had sent in heavies to frighten the family away, or that Pele had let a prostitute use the house.

Whatever the reason, the newly-housed were soon back on the streets, and not even together any longer. One child died, and the couple separated. Grim as it sounds, this was a lightly-handled look at poverty. One of a season which continues tonight and tomorrow night under the rubric "One Family". It drew its pictures in a few swift strokes: not profound, but telling.

NIGEL HAWKES

## The French have a word for it

Fashions come and go in art-house product, but the lure of French cinema remains constant. Compared to the hard-fisted, tongue-tied English, French film characters know supremely well how to talk intelligently, make love and contemplate their navel. Look at Eric Rohmer. He has built an entire oeuvre out of loquacious, self-absorbed people toying with moral, religious or romantic choices. Yet they never live in a vacuum: you come away smelling pungent black coffee, the stale air of the Paris Metro, or the ocean spray on a summer beach.

*A Winter's Tale*, second in his new cycle "Les Quatres Saisons", comes close to his best. In its density of talk, this rivals his films of the late Sixties. The higher-blown words come from Loïc, a librarian, head lost in books. But Rohmer's no-nonsense heroine, Parisian hairdresser Félicie, also talks her head off, as her heart hesitates between the intellectual Loïc, her bony bourgeois boss Maxence, and the long-lost man of her dreams (father of her five-year-old daughter).

Like many Rohmer girls, Félicie, petulant and dithering, hardly courts sympathy. But Rohmer has a precious knack for making us care, and letting unknown actresses sparkle. Tight-faced Charlotte Véry is the beneficiary here, though in many scenes the emotional weight rests with Félicie's

**A Winter's Tale**  
Chelsea Cinema, Renoir, 12  
Tous les Matins du Monde  
Curzon Mayfair, Screen on the Hill, 12  
Labyrinth of Passion  
Metro  
Artaud season National Film Theatre

daughter (Ava Loraschi), who with few complaints accompanies her mother's quest from her parental nook to Loïc's apartment to Maxence's new business in Nevers.

Rohmer, 73 next April, assembles his tale with an old master's ease, cunningly lacing the realistic surface with hints, then eruptions, of magic. Here Shakespeare's own *Winter's Tale* comes into play. Watching the scene where Hermione's statue comes to life, Félicie becomes newly convinced that her dream man will return from nowhere to warm her frozen heart.

Rohmer keeps us waiting too long for the resolution; but we willingly wait as the pageant of life passes by. Rohmer's art has always been for connoisseurs. *Tous les Matins du Monde* would seem equally aimed at small, devoted audiences. Characters wear long wigs and play the viola da gamba; the film resurrects the life and music of Marin Marais and his hermit teacher, Sainte-Colombe, in the days of Louis XIV.

Yet the French public have already queued in large numbers. Initially they were attracted by the thought of Gérard Depardieu (he plays the older Marais), and the film debut of his son Guillaume (Marais the young blade). But word of mouth spread: this was a film with a magic atmosphere, a button-holing performance by Jean-Pierre Marielle as Sainte-Colombe, the proud but humble reclus who exists only to transmute his pain into aching notes for the viola da gamba. *Tous les Matins*, written by Pascal Quignard, photographed largely in sombre shadows and candlelight, could easily have become an airless museum piece. But Corneau and his team craft a living lament for lost love and high ideals: a film to touch the stoniest heart.

The director, Alain Corneau, came to local prominence with urban thrillers. Here there are no squealing cars, or even sedan chairs; the lessons learned in sustaining tension are now applied to relationships. Precocious Marais becomes a pupil of the morose Sainte-Colombe, who grieves for his lost wife. Worldly temptations rupture their bond: Marais falls for Sainte-

Colombe's eldest daughter (easy enough when she is Anne Brochet), and the glittering prizes of Louis XIV's court. Each time Marais appears, he wears more brocade, more lipstick, brooches and bows. Yet the film's heart lies in intimate affairs: the mysteries of the creative process, bereavement, the ties between master and pupil.

Depardieu the younger makes a creditable debut, while his father empowers the older Marais with his usual strength. But the face that haunts this magical, melancholy film belongs to Jean-Pierre Marielle as Sainte-Colombe, the proud but humble reclus who exists only to transmute his pain into aching notes for the viola da gamba. *Tous les Matins*, written by Pascal Quignard, photographed largely in sombre shadows and candlelight, could easily have become an airless museum piece. But Corneau and his team craft a living lament for lost love and high ideals: a film to touch the stoniest heart.

Try the National Film Theatre for French cinema's past, in the January season of films blessed by the stark, penetrating features of Antonin Artaud — actor, theoretician, progenitor of the Theatre of Cruelty. In the Twenties he thought cinema "more exciting than phosphorus, more captivating than love", and devised outlandish scenarios, such as *The Sea-Shell and the Clergyman*. By the Thirties, after a few acting chores too many, his passion had turned to disgust. Yet he worked with many gifted directors: Dreyer, most memorably, in *The Passion of Joan of Arc*; with Gance, Lang, and Marcel L'Herbier in *L'Argent*, an extraordinary exercise in high style.

Artaud apart, curiosity seekers must rest content with the measly rewards of Pedro Almodóvar's *Labyrinth of Passion*, his second feature, made in 1982. The script rounds up sex-crazed damsels: a deposed Arab emperor's son, and a gynaecologist who practices artificial insemination on bachelors. It is hollow stuff, raw juvenilia from a director still to find his feet.

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Félicie (Charlotte Véry) and Loïc (Hervé Furic) in Eric Rohmer's *A Winter's Tale*



PUBLISHING: The books that we bought (and in some instances also read) in 1992

# Scandal and smut to the fore

Sex and intimate revelations figured strongly among the best-sellers in 1992, although book sales did not increase overall, reports Nicolette Jones



Madonna: her Sex sold out and was banned in the Republic of Ireland

Whether or not the British book trade had a difficult year of its own, it certainly contributed to the Queen's Andrew Morton's *Her True Story* (O'Mara) sold hundreds of thousands of copies with its account of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, apparently leaked through friends by the princess — some say to redress the balance of Lady Colin Campbell's more "pro-Charles" volume, *Diana in Private* (Smith Gryphon). Without these revelations, it might have been possible for the royal couple to maintain an estranged marriage behind a dutiful front, and keep their sorry troubles secret. But the pen proved the mightier sword.

This ill wind for the Windsors blew the bookshops a rare gust of profit. Figures are hard to pin down, but although big chains claim their sales were up on last year, the Central Office of Statistics suggests that overall book sales did not increase. Small bookshops were squeezed, independent publishers felt the pinch, and it was mostly big names that sold. Publishers and booksellers report good and bad months, but agree that, as in other retail industries, hopes of long-term growth were dashed. Disaster may have been staved off for most companies but "a lot of people have got their fingers in the dyke," says Richard Charkin of Reed, the conglomerate that owns Secker, Heinemann and Methuen (though he claims improved results for his own group).

Those results certainly owe something to Madonna. A total of 110,000 copies of *Sex* (Secker) sold out and another 130,000 went into the bookshops for Christmas. Booksellers grumbled as they did with the Morton book when supplies dried up. The book was banned in the Irish Republic. And it prompted a few to call for reform of the Obscene Publications

Act, no doubt boosting sales — as did the controversy earlier in the year over the publication in English of the Marquis de Sade's *Juliette*. Those who campaigned to have de Sade's book banned failed, and caused it to sell 15,000 copies. Madonna's photographic fantasies also fell short of the DPP's standards of obscenity. It was a bad year for Philip Larkin's reputation. Once, he was beloved as a reasonable, reclusive, and somewhat of a bearishness. The publication of his *Letters* (Faber), edited by Anthony Thwaite, revealed a certain less-than-lovable boorishness. Enamoured of Mrs Thatcher, and determinedly unfriendly to his chappie, Larkin's letters about race, women and minorities, he disappointed some of his fans. Nevertheless, his irreverence is irresistible, as sales have shown. And the poems continue to stand on their own ground.

The publishing industry, despite more job losses, in fact fared better than many others. Takeovers and mergers offered some a lifeline. Maxwell's Macdonald did not go the way of its proprietor and was rescued by the transatlantic Little Brown. Galland, distinguished for its long leftish tradition and its crime list, lost its relatively new American owners, Houghton Mifflin, and was sold to another British independent, Cassell. Anthony Cheetham, set adrift by the conglomerate Random House (which had acquired his own Century Hutchinson) promptly bought old-established Weidenfeld, launched his own ship, Orion Publishing, with his wife Rosie, and recruited so many Random House employees that the group tried to stop him doing so by an injunction, without success. Orion also took on board, in a merger, Chapman Publishing, recently set up by Ian and Marjory Chapman who, despite a good list, were struggling to sell new

books in a recession. But the upmarket independent André Deutsch, which was abandoned by two of its biggest authors, John Updike and Penelope Lively, though on the market, has still not found a buyer.

Hard times did lead to some ingenious initiatives in a bid for sales. Secker, Chatto and Hamish Hamilton tried publishing straight into paperback. This had its successes — a Whitbread first-novel prize for Jeff Torrington's *Swing Hammer Swing*, sales of 8,000 copies of American Allen Kurzwel's *A Case of Curiosities*, for instance, and increased sales of first novels from, say, 500 to 3,000 copies. But, in Charkin's opinion for one, it is not the solution to the industry's troubles. Reports of the death of the hardback were greatly exaggerated.

Other recessionary tactics included: Dillons' promotions that ranged from Susan Hill's discounted "Critic's Choice" of Reed books; since the group decided to go against the pricing Net Book Agreement, which is otherwise still going strong) to deals with off-licences for cheaper wine books; a "happy hour" at Books Etc, when books are sold at the trade price; W H Smith's "Thumping Good Read" award, won by Robert Goddard's *Into the Blue*; the opening of 12 charity bargain bookshops by Dillons under the Claude Gill name, which have been a success; and, coming up next year, a repeat of the Best of Young British Writers gambit of ten years ago, and a promotion (in February) that offers a prize of £10,000 and a chance to win £1 million if you buy a Faber book.

Somehow, amid the gloom, there have been big sums to pay to big names for books we can expect in the next year or so. Cher sold her memoirs for six figures. Terry Waite's autobiography went for around £400,000. Susan Hill commanded nearly seven figures for a sequel to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* (in the wake of successful sequels to *Gone With the Wind* and *Wuthering Heights*). Also expect to find out soon what happened next in *Dr Zhivago* and *The Forsyte Saga*. And the trade is

not yet bored with politicians. Lord Howe of Aberavon, Alan Clark and Julian Critchley have all sold their memoirs, and Edwina Currie has turned novelist: her *A Parliamentary Affair* will be out next autumn. Other individuals who had cause to celebrate include the poet Derek Segger, Chatto and Hamish Hamilton tried publishing straight into paperback. This had its successes — a Whitbread first-novel prize for Jeff Torrington's *Swing Hammer Swing*, sales of 8,000 copies of American Allen Kurzwel's *A Case of Curiosities*, for instance, and increased sales of first novels from, say, 500 to 3,000 copies. But, in Charkin's opinion for one, it is not the solution to the industry's troubles. Reports of the death of the hardback were greatly exaggerated.

Meanwhile, some names were lost to posterity, including the poet Monica Dickens and Angela Carter, the poet George Macbeth, the science-fiction writer Isaac Asimov and children's author Rosemary Sutcliffe. And certain voices from the past unexpectedly had something new to say. Hitherto unknown works by James Joyce and Samuel Beckett were found. Irish scholar Denis Ross pieced together a work-in-progress written between *Ulysses* and *Finnegans Wake*, a series of stories based on Irish legend. Entitled *Finn's Hotel*, it is set for publication next spring. Beckett's first attempt at a novel, *Dreams of Fair to Middling Women*, came to light and has already been published.

And it was his fourth bad year in a row for Salman Rushdie. The paperback of *The Satanic Verses* was published by an American consortium and quietly imported. But this did nothing to defuse his danger. The bounty on his head was doubled, and the government would not act on calls to impose sanctions on Iran until the fatwa is withdrawn. 1992 may have been a year in which, as one publisher put it, "the big issue is that nobody buys or reads books any more," but, from Andrew Morton to Salman Rushdie, it was also a year which confirmed the power of the published word.



James Joyce: some hitherto unpublished stories are out next spring

PUBLISHING: The books that we bought (and in some instances also read) in 1992

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As the West grapples with Bosnia's plight, Norman Stone looks at the lessons of allied intervention in an earlier civil war

## Churchill's weakest hour

CHURCHILL AND THE  
ARCHANGEL FIASCO  
November 1918-July 1919  
By Michael Kettle  
Routledge, £60

Nearly the whole of the British press, *The Guardian* in the lead, has been urging intervention in Bosnia, a cause that anyone decent immediately understands. The Foreign Office has not responded in the same style, although this week Douglas Hurd has stated that he can now imagine armed action against the Serbs to prevent a general Balkan war.

Muddle, even farce, result. Our boys have had to intervene, rather bravely taking supplies. They do so with great ingenuity and fabulous organisation along snowy hair-pin bends in mountains. However, there is a very large airport at a place called Tuzla, where supplies could be flown in to support the Bosnian population through the winter. The local Serbs have said: out of bounds. Rather than lever these people out, as in days of yore, British troops put up with the mountain odyssey, their own ministry constantly grumbling as to how difficult it all is.

However, this ministry has an argument or two. There is a

principle involved, with some woe-ful precedents. Intervening in civil wars is tricky. Of this, there is good evidence in Michael Kettle's book about British doings in the Russian civil war of 1917-21. This is a labour of enormous scholarship, a life's work, of which the third (of five projected) volumes now appears.

It takes the story from November 1918, when foreign troops were all around the periphery of Russia, to the middle of 1919, when the anti-Bolshevik side began dramatically to collapse, and most of the foreign troops were withdrawn. The British were mainly involved in north Russia—Archangel—but they had an interest in the Far East, and a rather more substantial one, what with oil, in southern Russia and the Caucasus. By the middle of 1919, they had withdrawn from the

north, in an episode of prodigious muddle, over which the presiding genius was Churchill's.

This, as with everything to do with Russia, was an extremely complicated business. It has surreal touches all around—Senegalese guarding the Donbass mines; Czechs in Omsk; the tail-end of Bulgakov's White Guard in Kiev, as the German occupants scramble with their puppet-ruler to the west, leaving the Russian bourgeoisie of the city at the mercy of Ukrainian nationalists on the one side, and Bolsheviks on the other, with assorted anarchists trundling around to complicate matters.

Then there was wrangling between the supposedly intervening powers. The French, taking and then abandoning Odessa in an epic of brutality and incompetence which appalled their British "al-

lies", actually charged refugee Russians a fee for boarding their own ships. As was to happen again and again as the century wore on, the British also found their American allies very difficult—one thing one minute, another the next. Clearly, in the Far East, American support for intervention was necessary—if only because (another complication) the Japanese had to be contained. But the Americans were not really ready for a display of their world power. They put a toe into Siberian waters, enough to brand them later as interventionists, but

did not go far enough to make the Whites in that region sufficiently powerful to win.

The result of all this was that the allied intervention proceeded in great disarray. Only the British were really trusted and liked by the anti-Bolshevik Russians (even then there were problems: volunteer RAF officers found the Russians' lack of co-ordination in the air extremely irritating, though the tank-crew trainers were more complimentary).

Churchill, at the War Office, kept prodding for more forthright behaviour. He was supported by a large part of the Tory party, breathing anti-German and anti-Bolshevik fire in debates that Kettle faithfully records. The prime minister, Lloyd George, nevertheless had to deal with considerable opposition. This was not just the Labour

party. More important were the trade unions, for whom "no more war" was as urgent as support for the alleged socialist regime in Russia.

And then there were the troops. British conscripts were very well aware of the sentiment "we're here because we're here", but there were limits to their patience. The Somme had been bad enough. Why prolong things in, of all places, the snowy wastes of the Kola peninsula? There were mutinies, though nothing to compare with mutinies among the French interventionists in the south. Lloyd George never, therefore, gave Churchill the backing he needed.

Finally, the Whites. Kettle's book is not about the Russian side, though he gives sufficient of the background to explain what was

going on. We still need a proper history of the Russian civil war, though it would take a master of the art to put across the story. However there is a melancholy 20th-century theme in the collapse of counter-revolutions, from the Russians' experience in 1920-1 to the fall of Shanghai and the fall of Saigon, via Havana and Managua.

Nearly every British observer, though often knowing and greatly liking the Russians, found them difficult: fractious, inclined to put small matters first, and then self-righteously disorganised. In November, the base-port of Denikin's volunteer army, there were even different times on the public clocks—one for Moscow time, another for Constantinople time, another for local time. You had to fix an advance by which clock you would be late for an appointment.

In Kettle's next volume, he will have to tell the story of the Whites' final evacuation from Novorossiysk, in March 1920—one of the epic disasters in the history of failed counter-revolutions. I look forward to reading it.

## Dictators of national culture

Daniel Johnson

THE ARTS OF THE  
THIRD REICH  
By Peter Adam  
Thames & Hudson, £24.95

STALINIST  
ARCHITECTURE  
By Alexei Tarkhanov and  
Sergei Kavtaradze  
Lawrence King, £35

At the great Paris World Exhibition of 1937, two monstrous neo-classical structures arose next to the Seine: deliberately overshadowing all the rest, they seemed to confront one another like primeval predators. The Soviet Pavilion by Boris Iofan was crowned by Vera Mukhina's colossal statue—welded from steel plates hot from the furnaces of the new industrial economy—of "The Worker and the Collective Farm Girl". The two giants, 25 metres high, were shown rushing headlong towards the future, brandishing hammer and sickle. Blocking their path through space, a massive, windowless tower rears up ahead, surmounted by an eagle: Albert Speer's German Pavilion. These salutes in stone and steel are typical of the gargantuan follies that fill two excellent books: *The Arts of the Third Reich* and *Stalinist Architecture*.

In two years the Soviet Union has disintegrated, just about the same time that the Third Reich took to the collapse between the barriers of Stalingrad and Berlin. Future historians will be able to compare the many legacies of these two empires rather more objectively than could be done while Soviet communism still existed. The similarities between their crimes are legion, but the art and architecture of Russian and German totalitarianism are among the most enduring and, strangely, least known of these legacies.

The alien and repulsive quality of official Soviet and especially Nazi aesthetics to British eyes cannot alone explain this ignorance. Indeed, the ignorance partly explains the hostility. Most people do not have the same prejudice against the music which Shostakovich or Richard Strauss composed under these regimes, because music seems abstract, at one more remove from politics than the visual arts.

But not everything that was painted, sculpted or built in the Soviet Union from 1917 to 1991, or in Germany from 1933 to 1945, was mediocre. Only an ideologue would suppose that they were. The most objectionable kind of historicism maintains that each high culture is merely a product of given social and economic circumstances, that the Bible or the plays of

Shakespeare are widgets and nothing more.

Peter Adam's conclusion, however, is that Nazi art and architecture were merely the visible projection of "absolute authority", and consequently worthless. "There is no doubt that the masses and the National Socialist leadership had the same taste," he declares. Why in that case was the "Ernst Curtius" exhibition of banned artists so popular? Actually not all Nazis agreed about aesthetics, and in architecture the break between the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich is not instantly obvious, as Adam admits when he discusses examples such as Tempelhof airport in Berlin.

The Soviet empire underwent several cultural revolutions, as Tarkhanov and Kavtaradze show. Stalin's personal views on architecture were as vehemently held as Hitler's: both dictators liked neo-classicism—a style which predominated throughout the 19th century in the cities they knew.

But how different were the buildings the two rivals bequeathed! In Hitler's handful of surviving monuments the classical orders and forms are transformed into obedient functionaries. Stalin's byzantine and oriental love of complexity for its own sake give his legacy an ornate exuberance that is more gothic than neo-classical. Stalin liked American skyscrapers and produced his own "wedding cake" imitations; Hitler had no time for them, but admired Hausmann's Parisian boulevards. The Nazis, whose empire lasted 12 years, built to last; apart from those that were not bombed or demolished are still in use. The Soviet Union, which lasted 70 years, tried to create utopia on the cheap; its structures are already crumbling.



Monstrous neo-classical structures: the Soviet (left) and the German (right) pavilions overshadowed the 1937 World Exhibition



## A noble battle for truth

Lesley Chamberlain

THE CZAR'S MADMAN  
By Jaan Kross  
Translated by Anselm Hollo  
from the Finnish Edition by  
Ivo Ilise  
Harvill, £14.99

This gripping novel of the folly of idealism, set in the post-Napoleonic Russian empire, has helped Jaan Kross to the stature of world-class novelist as a result of its recent belated discovery in the West. First published in Estonian in 1978, it won the Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger in 1989.

The enigmatic life of Timo von Bock, related in the journal of his brother-in-law Jakob Menik, poses the question whether a human life is wasted when sacrificed to unworkable ideals. Von Bock (his name means "stubborn") is a Baltic German aristocrat in the service of the Russian Tsar Alexander. He loves his Estonian homeland to the extent of marrying a low-born, local woman, Jakob's sister.

Tsar Alexander, known historically for his reign's sudden volte-face from a generous liberalism to imperial repression, both falls in love with Timo and betrays him, having him imprisoned as a madman. Jakob's diary, alternating between the periods before, during and after Timo's incarceration, queries this "madness".

Jakob is an ordinary soul. His consistent setting for something less than ideal is meant to seem starkly modern in contrast with Timo's nobility of a lost age. Kross has cleverly linked Timo to the Decembrist insurrection, the only time young Russian aristocrats rose against the autocracy. Perhaps it was necessary in the Tallinn of 1978 to make an enquiry into Timo's sanity seem the central focus of this remarkable novel, but what really drives it is the dynamism of ideas, deftly deployed on a vivid historical canvas.

Here is the life of a soldier of the tsar, an Estonian landowner, whose immediate point of intellectual reference is the German Enlightenment. Goethe himself has dedicated a poem to Timo; Kant's ethical philosophy and ideal of universal peace are never far from his thoughts.

How can a man of such certainty and leading a life of such purity be real, cries the weekly second-class Jakob, as if for all of us. And, of course, it is Jakob's weakness in solitude, his imperfect love affairs and his inability to fix his identity through heartfelt commitment, the disorder of his feeble thoughts yet still containing goodwill, which actually grip the reader.

An outdated, almost forgotten moral beauty struggles through these pages with the force of modern, well-meaning compromise. Absolute goodness against a vagueness which is not evil, is simply inadequate. Through the use of manuscripts casually lost, found, stolen and wilfully destroyed, and a sly afterword purporting to distinguish fact from fiction, Kross locates his own act of writing in a world where truth has become little more than accidental.

What a comfort it must have been to write—and read—this book in the former Soviet Estonia! It is both a testament to the roots of local life, so cut off from the larger world, and an evocation of the old idea of world citizenship which is still our only hope. What other treasures have we missed from those so long unfree lands?

## Called to expense account

Oliver Letwin

THE SPECTRE OF  
CAPITALISM  
The Future of the World  
Economy after the  
Fall of Communism  
By William Keegan  
Hutchinson, £16.99

William Keegan is the economics editor of the *Observer*. His book is very up-to-date. It is, in fact, state-of-the-art, since it expresses the three fundamental propositions of the new post-Thatcherite, post-communist consensus: communism has failed; unrestricted free-market capitalism is also grotesque; and, therefore, we need "careful, pragmatic coordination" between government and private enterprise.

We have to remember throughout that Keegan is an economics editor. He thinks in pounds and pence (or, perhaps in Ecus, marks and yen). His worst accusation is to call something "expensive". Communism he describes as "an expensive detour both in terms of the tens of millions of lives lost... and in terms of the feeble economic performance". This is the highest refinement of state-of-the-art Ecus-speak. Note the calm understatement of "feeble economic performance", and the careful pricing of "tens of millions of lives" not "extremely expensive", not even "very expensive", just... "expensive".

Certain other minor defects of communism do not even warrant a mention. The torture of those who voiced dissent and the foundation of a society on fear, fawning, indoctrination and lies, were, we are presumably to conclude, cheap. Thatcherite, "free-market" capitalism is also, in Keegan's view, a "detour", creating, *inter alia*, the persistent traffic jam in Bangkok, "contempt for manufacturing industry", macroeconomic ineptitude and the inefficiencies engendered by hostile takeovers.

The reason why this is so wrong, in the view of the economics editor, is—unsurprisingly—that it is... expensive, because it undermines the acceptability of capitalism and hence the wealth that capitalism can produce.

Like communism, it stands in severe danger of producing that worst of all possible worlds, feeble economic performance. Whether Thatcherism does or does not (as its proponents believe) encourage independence of spirit and vigour of mind is not, in Keegan's opinion, worth discussing. No Ecus hang on the matter.

But this is not just a book about expensive detours. Keegan sees clearly, and vouchsafes to us the way ahead. From his desk at the *Observer* and while chuck in three

Bangkok traffic jams, Keegan has been able to survey the miracles of Japan and Germany. A great light has shone upon him. He has discovered that they are (oh, glory) rich. He has, moreover, discovered why. Central planning, public works and nationalised industries are the very things that have made all those lucky Japanese and Germans so phenomenally rich.

In short, and this is Keegan's state-of-the-art discovery, government intervention in a capitalist market is the solution to the problem of life.

Keegan is not giving us this stunning insight merely to enlarge our understanding of the world. He has a practical purpose. He aims to launch a crusade against the real villains of the modern world: the finance ministers who are setting Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary on a free-market course. These chaps, we are told, are not doing nearly enough in the way of government intervention and central planning. The result will be, indeed already is, expensive.

This is news indeed. Who would have thought that the real problem in central Europe was lack of government intervention? Pre-Keegan, it seemed so plausible that the cause of the problem was the effect of communism on the spirit, structure and intellectual assumptions of these societies.

But now we know: those good old communists were just a bit feeble economically: the real "spectre" (Keegan's phrase) is rampant Thatcherism. It could cause terrible traffic jams in Warsaw, and that would be horrible, expensive

## Poet without a home

Adam Zamoyski

BEGINNING WITH MY  
STREETS  
By Czesław Miłosz  
Translated by  
Madeline G. Levine  
J.B. Tauris, £19.95

More fireside chat than essay, the *gawęda*, Miłosz points out, is a literary form unique to Poland, and this collection of reminiscences, lectures, reviews and obituaries illustrates it rather well. Miłosz really does begin with his streets, the streets of pre-war Wilno, now Vilnius—which he invests with all the magical other-worldliness and evocative power that make his poetry live.

Two things cannot be reduced to rationalising: time and beauty," writes Miłosz, quoting his mentor Simone Weil, and these two subjects run through all the pieces in this collection, whatever they might be about. He adds to these a preoccupation of his own, namely geography. Not so much the physical topography of the Earth, more the human geography of culture.

These preoccupations go far to explain Miłosz's brilliance and his shortcomings, both as a man and a poet. He is a wanderer in time and space, part refugee, part fugitive. He has never felt at ease in his surroundings.

"The dimension that my eyes dimly perceived in the Thirties," he writes, "did not belong to the general Polish dimension, so my place was among the 'outsiders', because they were Jews or because they were communists or communist sympathisers. No matter where I turned, however, there was nowhere where I felt at home." Since settling in the United

States, he has been a European stranded in the New World. But he feels similarly foreign when he is in Europe, as for him there are "two Europes".

When he is in Warsaw he is conscious of being cut off from the main stem of European civilisation, when he is in Paris he is aware that he belongs to that other Europe, the one which was "destined to descend into the heart of darkness" of the twentieth century and was initiated into the great mystery of our age. For Miłosz believes that the Holocaust—not just the Jewish Holocaust, but the whole Bolshevik-Nazi package—represents a quantum leap in the historical process. To him, nothing can ever be the same again, and this presents him with his greatest challenge as a poet and a thinker.

Quite simply, he asks whether traditional poetry and thought can have any relevance now.

This perception of himself as straddling continents, cultures and historical experiences lends power to his vision, both philosophical

and poetic. His literary formation and his points of reference are equally broad-based and heterogeneous. Authors who influenced him during his adolescence include such apparently random names as Adam Mickiewicz, William Gray, Fenimore Cooper, Thomas Traherne, Alphonse Daudet and Thomas Mann.

This kind of magpie approach to literature, dictated to some extent by availability, is not untypical of eastern European writers. It has the merit of producing a less programmed sensibility than that of most western writers, whose formation is often fashion-led. His provincial literary upbringing also has the effect of leaving him with a trace of naivety, or possibly innocence, which no doubt accounts for the sense of wonder with which he approaches everything, a wonder that enhances his poetic perception.

Miłosz's sense of identity is, however, a little suspect. His view of history, on which he relies so much, is shaky and sometimes flawed. So is the "Lithuanianness" he clings to so insistently. It seems to be based above all on a need to escape from a "Polishness" that he sees as a threat, but one that few Poles would recognise. He is left in California, blinking not so much at the sun as at the incomprehensibility of it all.

Although the collection is patchy, this is a book well-worth dipping into, permeated with arresting thought and observation.

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# Be positive about the vetting

Managers seeking  
backing for  
buy-outs face  
rigorous scrutiny.  
Clare Hogg reports

One of the most stringent vetting processes a manager is ever likely to be subjected to is the scrutiny of the financial backers in the case of a management buy-in or buy-out.

Take the case of Rob Shotton, managing director of the Green Bank Drinks Company. Originally a director of Brent Walker, Brewing and Trading, he supported his boss in a bid to buy the brewery. The process involved many meetings and endless presentations.

Mr Shotton came to know a lot of the potential backers. The bid was unsuccessful, but subsequently Mr Shotton was given the opportunity of buying the bottling plant. The contacts he had already made proved very valuable.

"The first contact you make," Mr Shotton says, "is crucial. You need something which will put you at the top of the pile." First, he advises, "you need to make sure somehow that you are listened to. Then the financiers will ask what are you doing and why do you want some money? You should be able to produce something which is relevant, meaningful and well-constructed."

At great expense, Mr Shotton used Price Waterhouse to help with the business plan and advise on the presentation, how to handle likely questions, and so on. He is sure that this was an important factor in getting to the top.

But from there, the investigative process goes much deeper. As Mr Shotton explains, "there's not much you can do if you are not competent in the first place. The investors listened and questioned us very closely."

The next step involved the use by the investors of independent industry experts. "Those who are specialist in a particular industry only have to walk around a factory to see whether it is well or badly managed," Mr Shotton says. In his view, the industry experts played an important role in revealing the professionalism of the management team.

The third and last hurdle for Mr



Ready for anything: Rob Shotton, of the Green Bank Drinks Company, had to undergo very close scrutiny before his buy-out

Shotton was the follow-up of his personal references. "They spoke to my former MD and asked not just 'how good is he at his present job', but also 'how will he act when he is in overall control, has he got the abilities to make the transition?'"

Emyr Hughes, director of Kleinwort Benson Development Capital, confirms that the skills, abilities and personalities of the management team seeking backing is critical. He wholeheartedly agrees with the maxim in a handbook published by the British Venture Capital Association: "The three most important aspects of a successful business are management, management and management."

Mr Hughes looks carefully at the key individuals and how they perform within a business. "We look at each CV and track back carefully. We make sure there are no gaps and if there has been any involvement at senior level with any other business, we look carefully at the success (or otherwise) of that business."

As Mr Shotton discovered, referees are carefully contacted, always either by telephone, or occasionally a meeting might be arranged. "We always ask them how they react under pressure and about their strengths and weaknesses." By dint of all this research, Mr Hughes

tries to piece together an objective picture of the individual.

Next, Mr Hughes looks at the team as a whole and how it operates. This is an awkward area, and has to be dealt with sensitively. It is at this stage that an assessment is made as to where the power lies in the group, and to what extent a natural leader (which should be the chief executive) emerges.

The thorough methods used by Kleinwort Benson are not as widespread as they should be. Accord-

ing to MSL, a consultancy with its own experience of a buy-out from Saatchi & Saatchi, the question of personal skills and qualities is approached in a generally "sane and almost cavalier fashion". "It's all very haphazard," Gary Long, MSL's chairman, says.

Many backers, he says, are flattered by being approached in the beginning and adopt the approach: "I can tell a good chap when I see one."

Sadly, Mr Long says, MSL tends to get called in two or three years too late, when the decision has been made, and the arrangement is not working. Lack of entrepreneurial flair is often a cause, Mr Long points out that the reason the company is for sale in the beginning may be something to do with the quality of management, and if it is for sale because of

difficult trading conditions, these will not improve when ownership changes.

When called in during the initial stages of a buy-out, MSL very occasionally recommends that a deal does not go ahead. When things go wrong after a buy-out and success proves elusive, the subsequent restructuring of the equity and debt arrangements results in disappointed, demotivated and poorer management owners.

Mr Hughes' advice to managers seeking backing for a buy-out is "be your own natural self". He points out that over the extended period of negotiations, it is very difficult to cover up anything significant. "You have meeting after meeting about private and family matters..."

"And don't be too frightened of the process. The backers need to feel very comfortable with the management team. It's like a marriage: the wedding is fine, but it's really a long-term process."

"There's not much you can do if you're not competent in the first place"

## LIFE AFTER REDUNDANCY

### A helping hand for the executive

Outplacement may not be among the best things in life, but the fact that job search advice and help is available free through the employment department's Executive Job Clubs is not as well known as it should be. There are 111 of these operating throughout the UK, of which 42 are in London and the South East.

While Executive Job Clubs are not as well resourced as commercial outplacement firms, they do provide an acceptable alternative. Apart from counselling, Job Club members have access for six months to free telephones, post, fax and word processors.

So why don't more out-of-work managers join? John Gallacher, a former recruitment executive

terms of the counselling but from the contact with others in the same boat. "The members came from a variety of business backgrounds and had been earning about £30-£40,000 a year. "We all got on well, and there was a lot of frank feedback between us about our respective methods and aims. It provided the kind of focus you don't get from family and friends."

Mr Crighton said that some club members had felt isolated and depressed but were re-energised by the Job Club process. Mr Gallacher emphasises the value of keeping up morale. "Ninety per cent of success at interviews is attitude," he says. "We also teach the methods and techniques which enable people to be more positive about selling themselves."

These are very similar, in a shortened form, to those used by commercial outplacement firms. Wandsworth holds three-day seminars for new members, in

"We show people how to be positive about selling themselves"

groups of about 12, on all aspects of the job search, concentrating on self-marketing, which John Gallacher has found to be a weakness. The seminar is followed up by four half-day sessions on a one-to-one basis. "About the only standard outplacement hardware we don't provide are videocameras for interview practice. We find role playing more effective," Mr Gallacher says.

He claims an impressive success rate. About 70 per cent of members get jobs within 12 months. Nationally, Job Clubs claim success rates of 50 per cent. Mr Gallacher does, however, admit that many Job Club candidates have to take a drop in salary. "Forget about salary, and think about role," is his advice. "Your first priority is to return to the job that is right for you."

GODFREY GOLZEN

Details of Job Clubs are contained in the employment department booklet EMP4 45, Just The Job.

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Application is by form only which can be obtained, together with further details, from the Head of Personnel, 8 St John's North, Wakefield WF1 3QA. Completed forms should be returned to same by 22 January 1992. (Please quote post ref 581)

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Please send your CV to: Dan Technology plc  
Unit 3, Towers Business Park  
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## The Times calendar of

## AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Jan 2-3: NFL wild-card play-offs.  
Jan 8-16: NFL divisional play-offs.  
Jan 17-18: NFL conference finals.  
Jan 31: NFL Super Bowl XXVII, Pasadena, California.  
Sep 5: NFL season opens.

## ARCHERY

Mar 28: National indoor championships, NIA, Birmingham.  
June 12-13: UK Masters, Lilleshall.  
June 30-July 2: GNAM, Lilleshall.  
Aug 14-15: British target championships, Lilleshall.  
Aug 29-30: National compound championships, Holton, Aylesbury.

## ATHLETICS

Jan 2: IAAF World Cross challenge, Durham.  
Jan 8: IAAF World Cross challenge, Belfast.  
Jan 17: IAAF World Cross challenge, Seville.  
Jan 24: IAAF World Cross challenge, Tourcoing, France.  
Jan 30-31: Indoor meeting, three nations v Great Britain, ibs, Spain.  
Jan 31: IAAF World Cross challenge, San Sebastian, Spain.  
Feb 6: World cross-country British trials (including inter-county championship), Corby.  
Feb 7: IAAF World Cross challenge, Algarve, indoor meeting, Belgium v England, Ghent.  
Feb 13: Vauxhall indoor international, Great Britain v United States, Birmingham.  
Feb 13-14: AAA under-20 indoor championships, Birmingham.  
Feb 14: IAAF World Cross challenge, Oelde, Germany.  
Feb 20: TSB indoor international, Birmingham: English women's cross-country championships.  
Feb 21: IAAF World Cross challenge, Chiba, Japan.  
Feb 23: IAAF indoor championships, Birmingham.  
Feb 25-27: AAA indoor championships, Birmingham.  
Feb 27: IAAF World Cross challenge, Nairobi: English men's national cross-country championships, Parliament Hill.  
Mar 12-14: World indoor championships, Torino.  
Mar 20: National relays, Mansfield.  
Mar 22: IAAF World Cross challenge, Amorebieta, Spain.  
Apr 18: Nuffield London Marathon.  
May 6: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, São Paulo, Brazil.  
May 22: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, New York.  
May 25: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, San Jose, US.  
May 29-30: Italy v Czechoslovakia v Great Britain, Alzano, Italy.  
May 31: IAAF invitation, Vancouver, CA: CAU championships, Corby.  
June 6: IAAF invitation, Bratislava, June 4: Pearl European relays, Portsmouth.  
June 6: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Seville.  
June 6: Solent Games, Southampton: Hungary v Great Britain v Italy, TSB Challenge, Great Britain v United States (three-side), Edinburgh.  
June 13-14: AAA under-20 championships, ibs.  
July 5: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Stockholm.  
July 7: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Lussemburg.  
July 10: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Oslo.  
July 11-12: World student games, Buffalo, US.  
July 16-17: Paracross, AAA championships, Birmingham.  
July 17-18: Under-20 international, Belgium v Great Britain v Holland, Dilsen, Belgium.  
July 19: IAAF invitation, Barcelona.  
July 21: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Nice.  
July 23: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Crystal Palace.  
July 24: Under-23 international, Russia v Great Britain v Germany, Moscow.  
July 25: British Gas Welsh Games (including Wales v England v Australia), Cardiff.  
July 28: IAAF invitation, Sefton, Ireland.  
July 29-July 2: European junior championships, San Sebastian.  
July 29-Aug 1: European junior championships, San Sebastian.  
Aug 1: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Cologne: Northern Ireland v England v Australia, Derry.  
Aug 4: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Zurich.  
Aug 7: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Monte Carlo: Spain v Great Britain v Italy v France, ibs, Spain.  
Aug 13-22: World championships, Stuttgart.  
Aug 25: IAAF invitation, Linz, Austria.  
Aug 27: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Berlin.  
Aug 28: Under-20 international, Italy v Great Britain v Hungary, Verona.  
Aug 29-29: Ukraine v England, Kiev.  
Aug 29: IAAF invitation, Sheffield.  
Sept 1: IAAF invitation, Koblenz.  
Sept 3: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Brussels.  
Sept 7: IAAF invitation, Gatteshed, Edinburgh.  
Sept 10: IAAF/Mobil grand prix final, Crystal Palace.  
Sept 17: Hungary v Ukraine v Russia v Great Britain, Salgotarjan.  
Sept 18: IAAF invitation, Tokyo, Japan.  
Sept 19: World half-marathon championships, Brussels.  
Oct 31: World Cup marathon, San Sebastian.

## BOBSLEIGHING

Jan 12-23: European championships, St Moritz.  
Feb 2-11: World championships, Cervinia.

## BOWLS

Indoor  
Feb 15-26: World championship, singles and pairs, Preston.  
Mar 6-7: National inter-club championship, semi-finals and final, Lawson Park, Bantock.  
Mar 12-14: World indoor championships, Torino.  
Mar 20: National relays, Mansfield.  
Mar 22: IAAF World Cross challenge, Amorebieta, Spain.  
Apr 18: Nuffield London Marathon.  
May 6: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, São Paulo, Brazil.  
May 22: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, New York.  
May 25: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, San Jose, US.  
May 29-30: Italy v Czechoslovakia v Great Britain, Alzano, Italy.  
May 31: IAAF invitation, Vancouver, CA: CAU championships, Corby.  
June 6: IAAF invitation, Bratislava, June 4: Pearl European relays, Portsmouth.  
June 6: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Seville.  
June 6: Solent Games, Southampton: Hungary v Great Britain v Italy, TSB Challenge, Great Britain v United States (three-side), Edinburgh.  
June 13-14: AAA under-20 championships, ibs.  
July 5: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Stockholm.  
July 7: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Lussemburg.  
July 10: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Oslo.  
July 11-12: World student games, Buffalo, US.  
July 16-17: Paracross, AAA championships, Birmingham.  
July 17-18: Under-20 international, Belgium v Great Britain v Holland, Dilsen, Belgium.  
July 19: IAAF invitation, Barcelona.  
July 21: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Nice.  
July 23: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Crystal Palace.  
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July 28: IAAF invitation, Sefton, Ireland.  
July 29-July 2: European junior championships, San Sebastian.  
July 29-Aug 1: European junior championships, San Sebastian.  
Aug 1: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Cologne: Northern Ireland v England v Australia, Derry.  
Aug 4: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Zurich.  
Aug 7: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Monte Carlo: Spain v Great Britain v Italy v France, ibs, Spain.  
Aug 13-22: World championships, Stuttgart.  
Aug 25: IAAF invitation, Linz, Austria.  
Aug 27: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Berlin.  
Aug 28: Under-20 international, Italy v Great Britain v Hungary, Verona.  
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Aug 29: IAAF invitation, Sheffield.  
Sept 1: IAAF invitation, Koblenz.  
Sept 3: IAAF/Mobil grand prix, Brussels.  
Sept 7: IAAF invitation, Gatteshed, Edinburgh.  
Sept 10: IAAF/Mobil grand prix final, Crystal Palace.  
Sept 17: Hungary v Ukraine v Russia v Great Britain, Salgotarjan.  
Sept 18: IAAF invitation, Tokyo, Japan.  
Sept 19: World half-marathon championships, Brussels.  
Oct 31: World Cup marathon, San Sebastian.

## BADMINTON

Mar 17-20: Yonex All-England open championships, Wembley Arena.  
Apr 25-28: Royal Bank ICC first and second division finals, third division play-offs.  
May 31-June 6: World championships, NIA, Birmingham.  
June 19: EBU circuit masters finals.

## BASEBALL

April 5: Opening Day.  
July 13: 84th Major League All-Star Game, Baltimore.  
Oct 5: Major League championship series begin.  
Oct 16: World Series begins.

## BASKETBALL

Jan 9: National cups, quarter-finals.  
Jan 17: NatWest Trophy final, NIA, Birmingham.  
Feb 28: National cups, finals, men and women, Sheffield Arena.  
Mar 10: Korac Cup, final, first leg/Ronchetti Cup, final, first leg.  
Mar 17: Korac Cup, final, second leg/Ronchetti Cup, final, second leg.  
Mar 24: Blue Circle all-star game, Granby Halls, Leicester.  
Mar 24: Women's European Cup, semi-finals.  
Mar 25: Women's European Cup, final.  
Apr 6: European Cup, final.  
Apr 10: Carlsberg national league, play-offs, first round.  
Apr 13: European men's clubs championship, final.  
Apr 15: European championship, final, Athens.  
Apr 17: Carlsberg national league, play-offs, second round.  
Apr 24-25: Men's national league, fourth division play-offs, Melton Mowbray.  
May 1-2: Carlsberg championships, Wembley Arena.  
May 12: European women's championship, qualifying round.  
May 12: England men's international tournament, London.  
June 2-4: Men's European championship finals, ibs, Germany.  
June 10-10: Commonwealth championships, Kuala Lumpur.  
Nov 12: European championships, semi-final round.

## BOWLS

Jan 12-23: European championships, St Moritz.  
Feb 2-11: World championships, Cervinia.

## BOXING

Amateur  
Jan 28: Scotland v England, Scotland.  
Feb 5: Ireland v England, Dublin.  
Apr 3: English championship, semi-finals, Blackbird Leys LC, Oxford.  
Apr 13: British championship, semi-finals, Blackbird Leys LC, Oxford.  
May 5: ABA finals, NEC, Birmingham.  
May 5-7: World championships, Tampere, Finland.  
Professional  
Jan 2: European light-welterweight championship, Valery Kuyumba (F) v Pat Bennett (GB), Luxembourg.  
Jan 8: WBA super-middleweight championship, Michael Nunn (US) v Victor Cordoba (Panama), Puerto Rico.  
Jan 13: European bantamweight championship, Vincenzo Belcastro (It) v Donnie Hood (GB), Milan.  
Jan 18: Heavyweight bout, George Foreman (US) v Pierre Coetzee (SA), Tommy Monaghan (US) v Carl Williams (US), Reno, Nevada.  
Jan 19: European flyweight championship, Robbie Regan (GB) v Danny Poiry (GB), National Ice rink, Cardiff.  
Jan 28: WBC international middleweight championship, Chris Pyatt (GB) v Danny Garcia (US), Granby Halls, Leicester.  
Jan 28: British super-featherweight championship, Neil Hedcock v Steve Walker, Everton Park SC.  
Jan 30: WBC international heavyweight championship, Herbie Hide (GB) v Danny Stonewalker (US).

## COMMONWEALTH

Commonwealth light-middleweight championship, Micky Hughes (GB) v Lloyd Honeyghan (GB), Bramwood LC.  
Feb 3: WBC featherweight championship, Paul Hoggins (GB) v Ricardo Capenda (US), York Hall, London.  
Feb 6: WBA and IBF heavyweight championship, Riddick Bowe (US) v Michael Dokes (US).  
Feb 11: European cruiserweight championship, Akim Taler (F) v Derek Angol (GB), Nice.  
Feb 20: WBC light-welterweight championship, Julio Cesar Chavez (Mex) v Greg Haugen (US), WBC light-middleweight championship, Terry Norris (US) v Simon Brown (Jama), WBC middleweight championship, Julian Jackson (US) v Gerald McClellan (US), WBC super-featherweight championship, Azumah Nelson (Ghana) v Gabriel Ruelas (Mex), All in Mexico City.  
Feb 28: WBC super-middleweight championship, Chris Eubank (GB) v Undell Holmes (US), Olympia.  
Mar 6: WBC welterweight championship, James McGirt (US) v Pernell Whitaker (US), Madison Square Garden, New York.  
Mar 6: WBC middleweight championship, Nigel Benn v opponent ibs, Glasgow.

## CROQUET

May 29-June 1: Inter-county championships, Southwick and Brighton.  
June 5-6: Home internationals, Budeigh Salterton.  
June 15-20: Men's and women's championships, Cheltenham.  
July 19-25: British Open championship, Hurlingham and Fulham.  
Sept 16-19: President's Cup, Hurlingham and Fulham.

## CYCLING

Jan 3: National cyclo-cross championships, Wolverhampton.  
Jan 30-31: World cyclo-cross championships, Pordenone, Italy.  
Feb 1-2: UCI 17th World Cup, ibs, San Marino (group two).  
Feb 17: World Cup, Scotland v Malta (group one), England v San Marino (group two), Albania v Northern Ireland (group three).  
Mar 23: European Cup Champions' League, European Cup Winners' Cup and Uefa Cup, quarter-finals, first legs.  
Mar 24: FA Cup, sixth round; Tennent's Scottish Cup, fifth round.  
Mar 25: Coca-Cola Cup, semi-finals, second legs.  
Mar 17-17: European Cup Champions' League, European Cup Winners' Cup and Uefa Cup, quarter-finals, second legs.  
Mar 24: Scotland v Germany, ibs, ibs.  
Mar 30: Uefa under-21 championship: Turkey v England (group two), Belgium v Wales (group four).  
Mar 31: World Cup, Turkey v England (group two), Republic of Ireland v Northern Ireland (group three), Wales v Belgium (group four).  
Apr 3: Tennent's Scottish Cup, semi-finals.  
Apr 4: FA Cup, semi-finals.  
Apr 6: European Cup Champions' League, European Cup Winners' Cup and Uefa Cup, semi-finals, first legs.  
Apr 18: Coca-Cola Cup, final.  
Apr 22: Uefa under-21 championship: Portugal v Scotland (group one), England v Holland (group two), Republic of Ireland v Denmark (group three), Spain v Northern Ireland (group three), Czechoslovakia v Wales (group four).  
Apr 20-21: European Cup Champions' League, European Cup Winners' Cup and Uefa Cup, semi-finals, second legs.  
Apr 25-26: South African Masters, ibs, Turespana Masters, ibs.  
Apr 27: Mediterranean Open, El Saler, Valencia.  
Mar 11-14: Turespana Balcans Open, Santa Ponsa, Mallorca.  
Mar 12: Rothamston Gold Cup.  
Mar 16-19: Sunningdale Tournaments, Sunningdale.  
Mar 18-21: Portuguese Open, Vila Sol, Algarve.  
Mar 25-28: US Players' championship, Ponte Vedra, Florida: ProSen-Tour Italy, Carvia, Bologna.  
Apr 1-4: Lyons Open, Villet d'Arthon.  
Apr 2-4: Central England Open men's tournaments, Woodhall Spa.  
Apr 8-11: The Masters, Augusta, Georgia.  
Apr 15-18: Home Masters, Castelfandolfo.  
Apr 22-25: Catalan Open, Barcelona.  
Apr 24-25: West of England stroke play, Saunton.  
Apr 29-May 2: Credit Lyonnais Games Open, Cannes Mougins; Alfred Dunhill Cup, qualifying, Taper.

## DISABLED SPORT

June 5-12: National senior wheelchair games, Stoke Mandeville.  
June 12-12: World Stoke Mandeville Games, Milton.  
July 5-11: French Open tennis championships, Paris.  
July 12-12: 17th World Games for the Disabled, Sofia, Bulgaria.  
July 27-31: British Open tennis championships, Nottingham.  
Aug 20-22: IODS world sailing championships, Stoke Mandeville.  
Aug 24-26: IODS world senior sailing championships, Stoke Mandeville.  
Oct 9-17: US Open tennis championships, Irvine, California.

## EQUESTRIANISM

May 1-5: Hermes Goodwood international championships.  
May 6-9: Badminton horse trials.  
May 12-12: Windsor horse driving trials.  
May 20-22: Nations' Cup, Hickstead.  
May 27-30: British Farrier Horse Trials.  
June 10-13: Toyota Bramham three-day event.  
July 8-11: Royal International horse show.  
Aug 14-15: Gallop and Park horse trials.  
Aug 28-29: Hickstead Derby.  
Sept 2-5: Burghley Royal Horse Trials.  
Sept 4: Southwell European endurance championships.  
Sept 18-19: Baniham Audi three-day event.  
Oct 6-10: Horse of the Year Show, Wembley (provisional).  
Dec 16-20: Olympia international show jumping championships.

## FENCING

Jan 9-10: British cadet championships.  
Jan 16-17: Scottish Open.  
Jan 20-21: British men's epee A-grade international, World Cup series.  
Jan 30-31: British men's epee A-grade international, World Cup series.  
Mar 27-28: British sabre championships, men and women.  
Apr 10-11: Birmingham international.  
Apr 24-25: Ipswich Cup women's epee A-grade international, World Cup series.  
May 1: Cordle Cup international men's sabre.  
May 8-9: British foil championships, men and women.  
May 22: British men's epee open championship.  
July 1-11: World championships, Essen.  
Nov 13-14: Welsh Open.

## FOOTBALL

Jan 2: FA Cup, third round.  
Jan 5: Coca-Cola Cup, fifth round.  
Jan 9: Tennent's Scottish Cup, third round.

## Europe ready to regain the Cup

BY MITCHELL PLATT  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo hopes to turn his impossible dream into reality by winning the four major championships in one year, but he knows that the highlight of the sporting calendar will be the Ryder Cup at The Belfry on September 24 to 26.

"I have my own personal goals, although the importance of the Ryder Cup cannot be understated," Faldo said. "It is a wonderful match and I'll be looking forward to trying to help Europe win the Cup back."

Faldo made his debut in the Ryder Cup in 1977 in the days when it was a foregone conclusion that the United States would win. Jack Nicklaus felt then that the future of the match was in doubt and he called for continental players to be included.

The renaissance of the competition has subsequently been well documented. Tony Jacklin was made captain in 1983 and, at The Belfry two years later, he led Europe, inspired by Severiano Ballesteros and Faldo, to a famous victory over the Americans for the first time since 1957.

Europe retained the Cup, sponsored again this year by Johnnie Walker, in 1987, winning on American soil for the first time, and again in 1989, when the match finished in a tie at The Belfry. The United States regained Samuel Ralston's elegant golden chalice at Kiawah Island in 1991.

Bernard Gallacher, Jacklin's successor as Europe's captain, is looking forward with confidence to The Belfry. He accepts it will be an evenly-balanced match and his hope is that it will unfold in the most convivial of atmospheres.

"I must admit I've got butterflies already and the match is still more than eight months away," he said. "It seems only like



Leading from the front: Faldo will lead the attempt to regain the Ryder Cup at The Belfry in September

yesterday that we went down to the last putt at Kiawah Island. I know all the players are determined as I am to win the Cup back and we are looking forward to strong, fair support at The Belfry."

Tom Watson, five times the Open champion, is the United States captain. He said: "Intensify has made the Ryder Cup a top-class event, a major if you like. I hope the United States plays its best at The Belfry, and even if we don't, then the chances are we will take the Cup back with us."

Faldo, however, remembers that he beat Watson in the singles in 1977 when both played in the match for the first time. Faldo has a hectic schedule for 1993 with Augusta (The Masters), Baltusrol (US Open), Royal St George's (Open Championship) and Inverness (US PGA Championship) his main ports of call, but by September he will have his thoughts

trained, like so many, exclusively on The Belfry.

Those spectators fortunate enough to be there—only 27,500 tickets are available—will find viewing much improved. Dave Thomas, the former Ryder Cup player, has significantly tightened the course and overseen the bottling of huge mounds to facilitate viewing.

Ryder Cup tickets will be issued subject to availability and applications should be made to The Ryder Cup Box Office, RC93 Tickets, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 9PT (Tel: 0675 475475). The cost of a season ticket is £100.00 for an adult and £50 for senior citizens and children under 16. Daily tickets are £35 for adult and £21 for senior citizens and children under 16. Details of Ryder Cup patronage packages can be obtained from the same address (Quote RC93 Patrons, Tel: 0675 47500).



Liz McColgan: defends her world championship crown

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# CONGRATULATIONS

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## international sport 1993

## Gooch is eager to set record straight

BY ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ONLY in England, where indigestion from too much one-day cricket has been stubbornly and sensibly avoided, can a series of six Test matches still command top billing in a summer's sport.

The 1993 Ashes contest, the jewel in the crown of a revamped domestic programme featuring exclusively four-day cricket in the county championships, is a case in point. Eagerly awaited by those who play, promote and simply watch the game, it is so mouth-watering a prospect that Graham Gooch, the England captain, was avidly discussing it even before leaving for the winter tour of India this week.

Gooch's greatest remaining ambition is to regain the Ashes, and as his fortieth birthday falls during the Headingley Test match, it is safe to say this is his last chance. Standing against him, barring a coup, will be Allan Border, two years younger and a long-time friendly foe. The last hurrah of these two enduring characters will be a poignant feature of as intriguing a series as has been staged in this country for years.

Gooch first played against Australia in 1975, when he was out for nought in each innings of the Edgbaston Test. Most of those who played in that game have long since retired to the commentary box, but Gooch is perhaps only now at the peak of his powers and stands in the powerful position of knowing the captaincy will be his for as long as he wants it.

As for Border, once a colleague of Gooch's at Essex, this will be his fifth Ashes series as Australian captain. He lost the first two, but then piloted resounding wins, by 4-0 and 3-0. The latter result, two winters ago, drove Gooch to despair and close to resignation: it is that memory



Friendly foe: Border will test England once again

which has driven him on to one more series. On paper, and at such long range, batting appears the heavyweight strength of both teams. Whether or not David Gower returns to try to add to his nine Ashes centuries, England have an enviable top six, with Mike Gatting still in his prime and Graeme Hick surely about to fulfil himself.

Australia are beginning to introduce a new generation, led by Damien Martyn, to challenge their well-established order. Dean Jones has lost his assured place but will still tour, along with familiar names like Boon, Taylor and the Waugh brothers, and some which will be fresh to an English audience.

Spin bowling is one area in which Gooch's side should have a distinct advantage. Indeed, the burgeoning skill of Phillip Tufnell as well as Ian Salisbury, shepherded by the old hand, John Embury, is as good a reason as any for looking forward to the summer Tests, which begin at Old Trafford, Manchester, on June 3, and conclude with the traditional finale at the Oval, late in August.

A. Munich and Dortmund.  
Apr 28-29: Heineken national championships, Wembley Arena.

## ICE SKATING

Jan 12-17: European figure and dance championships, Helsinki.  
Jan 22-24: European speed championship, Heerenveen, Holland.  
Feb 6-7: World women's speed championship, Berlin.  
Feb 19-14: World men's speed championship, Norway.  
Mar 9-14: World figure and dance championship, Prague.  
Mar 22-25: World short-track speed championship, Beijing.  
British championship dates to be announced.

## JUDO

Mar 6: BSJA national team championships, Torquay.  
Apr 3: British Open, Birmingham.  
Apr 24: National individual open championships, Birmingham.  
Apr 29-May 2: European individual championships, Athens.  
Sept 30-Oct 4: World Cup, Hamilton.  
Oct 23-24: European team cup, Frankfurt.  
Dec 4-5: National senior championships, Crystal Palace.

## MOTORCYCLING

Grand prix world championship  
Mar 25: Australian, Eastern Creek.  
Apr 4: Malaysian, Shah Alam.  
Apr 18: Japanese, Suzuka.  
May 2: Spanish, Jerez.  
May 16: Austrian, Salzburgring.  
May 30: Belgian, Francorchamp.  
June 20: German, Hockenheim.  
June 27: European, Catalunya.  
July 1: French, Croissy.  
Aug 1: British, Donington.  
Sept 5: Italian, Misano.  
Sept 12: Canadian, Mosport.  
Oct 3: South African, Kyalami.

Other dates  
May 22: BMF, East of England Showground, Peterborough.  
May 31-June 11: Isle of Man TT races.

## MOTOR RACING

Formula One grands prix  
Mar 14: South African, Kyalami.  
Mar 28: Brazilian, Interlagos.  
Apr 11: European, Donington Park.  
Apr 25: San Marino, Imola.  
May 5: Spanish, Barcelona.  
May 19: French, Magny-Cours.  
June 13: Canadian, Mosport.  
July 11: British, Silverstone.  
July 25: German, Hockenheim.  
Aug 1: Australian, Phillip Island.  
Aug 25: Belgian, Spa-Francorchamp.  
Sept 12: Italian, Monza.  
Sept 26: Portuguese, Estoril.  
Oct 10: Mexican, Aguascalientes.  
Nov 7: Austrian, Adorf.

British Formula Three championship  
Mar 21: Oulton Park.  
Apr 4: Thruxton.  
Apr 18: Brands Hatch.  
May 3: Donington.  
May 16: Silverstone.  
May 31: Silverstone.  
June 12: Oulton Park.  
June 27: Donington.  
July 12: Donington.  
July 18: Donington.  
Aug 8: Snetterton.  
Aug 22: Pembrey.  
Sept 5: Silverstone.  
Oct 10: Thruxton.

Other events  
Jan 19-20: Le Mans 24-hour race.

World rally championship  
Jan 21-22: Monte Carlo.  
Feb 11-14: Sweden.  
Mar 2-7: Portugal.  
Apr 8-13: Saudi Arabia, Katar.  
Apr 18-21: Tour of Corsica, France.  
May 29-June 3: Acropolis rally, Greece.  
July 14-17: Argentina.  
Aug 4-8: New Zealand.  
Aug 15-18: Thousand Lakes, Finland.  
Sept 18-20: Australia.  
Oct 10-14: Italy.  
Nov 1-3: Spain.  
Nov 21-24: Lombard RAC.

Other events  
Jan 1-4: King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, Ascot.  
July 27: William Hill Stewards' Cup, Goodwood.  
July 28: Sussex Stakes, Goodwood.  
July 29: Schweppes Golden Mile, Goodwood.  
July 30: Philip Morris Molecomb Stakes, Goodwood.  
Aug 1: Vodafone Nassau Stakes, Goodwood.  
Aug 17: Juddmonte International Stakes, York.  
Aug 18: Tote Ebor Handicap, York.  
Aug 19: Keeneland Nunthorpe Stakes, York.  
Aug 28: Celebration Mile, Goodwood.  
Aug 29: Arlington Million, Chicago.  
Sept 4: Sprint Cup, Haydock Park.  
Sept 8: Portland Handicap, Doncaster.  
Sept 9: Doncaster Cup.  
Sept 10: Laurence Penier Champagne Stakes, Doncaster.  
Sept 11: Colles Stakes, Doncaster.  
Sept 12: Kerry Group Irish Champion Stakes, Leopardstown.  
Sept 13: Ladbrokes Gold Cup, Newbury.  
Sept 18: Rakeby Farms Mill Reef Stakes, Newbury.  
Sept 19: Jefferson Memorial Irish Stakes, Leopardstown.  
Sept 20: Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, Ascot.  
Sept 23: Tattersalls Cheveley Park Stakes, Newmarket.  
Oct 1: Newmarket Middle Park Stakes, Newmarket.  
Oct 3: Cope Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Longchamp.  
Oct 15: Dewhurst Stakes, Newmarket.  
Oct 16: Dubai Champion Stakes and Tote Casertina, Newmarket.  
Oct 23: Racing Post Trophy, Doncaster.  
Oct 24: French St Leger, Longchamp.  
Oct 26: Racecall Gold Trophy, Redcar.  
Nov 7: Fosters Melbourne Cup, Flemington.  
Nov 8: William Hill November Handicap, Doncaster.  
Nov 9: Breeders' Cup, Gulfstream Park.  
Nov 13: Mackeson Gold Cup, Cheltenham.  
Nov 27: Hennessy Gold Cup, Newbury.  
Nov 28: Japan Cup, Tokyo.  
Dec 11: Triple Crown Gold Cup, Cheltenham.  
Dec 12: SGB Chase, Ascot.  
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Dec 28: Coral Welsh National, Cheltenham and Christmas Hurdle, Kempton Park.

Other events  
Jan 19-20: La Mene 24-hour race.

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## POWERBOATING

Offshore world series  
May 2: France, the.  
May 16: Spain, the.  
May 29: Italy, the.  
Jun 24: Malta.  
Jul 11: Venezuela.  
Sep 12: Belgium, the.  
Oct 28: Dubai.  
Nov 5: United Arab Emirates.  
Interland circuit  
World championship (provisional)  
April 17-18: Dubai.  
May 22-23: Milan.  
June 12-13: Stockholm.  
June 25-27: Chalon, France.  
Aug 30-Sep 1: London.  
Aug 19-20: Budapest.  
Sep 11-12: Toronto.  
Other dates  
Aug 3-7: World 1.3-litre championship, Alghero.  
Sept 7-11: World 2-litre championship, Helsinki.

## RACING

Jan 8: The Ladbrokes Leopardstown.  
Jan 16: Victor Chandler Chase, Ascot.  
Jan 31: AIG European Irish Champion Hurdle, Leopardstown.  
Feb 13: Tote Gold Trophy, Newbury.  
Feb 14: Hennessy Cognac Irish Gold Cup, Leopardstown.  
Feb 17: Racing Post Chase, Kempton Park.  
Mar 16: Sturtin Champion Hurdle, Cheltenham.  
Mar 17: Queen Mother Champion Chase, Cheltenham.  
Mar 18: Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup, Cheltenham.  
Mar 19: William Hill Lincoln, Doncaster.  
Apr 3: Mares Grand National, Aintree.  
Apr 12: Jameson Irish Grand National, Aintree.  
Apr 25: Shadwell Stud Neil Gwyn Stakes, Newmarket.  
Apr 14: European Free Handicap, Newmarket.  
Apr 15: Hunter Chase Final, Worcester.  
Apr 16: Garsborough Stud Fred Darling Stakes, Newbury.  
Apr 17: Singer And Fredander Greenham Stakes, Newbury.  
Apr 24: Whitbread Gold Cup, Sandown.  
Apr 28: Madagars 1,000 Guineas, Newmarket.  
Apr 30: Jockey Club Stakes, Newmarket.  
May 5: 2,000 Guineas, Newmarket.  
May 4: Kentucky Derby, Churchill Downs.  
May 4: Darham Hall Chester Vase, Chester.  
May 5: French 2,000 Guineas, Longchamp.  
May 12: Homebowners Dante Stakes, York.  
May 16: Aids-Coombe Irish 2,000 Guineas, Curragh.  
May 22: Golds Irish 1,000 Guineas, Curragh.  
June 2: Ever Ready Derby, Epsom.  
June 3: Epsom Cup, Epsom.  
June 5: Gold Seal Oaks, Epsom.  
June 6: French Derby, Chantilly.  
June 13: French Oaks, Chantilly.  
June 13: St James's Palace Stakes, Royal Ascot.  
June 18: Coronation Stakes, Royal Ascot.  
June 17: Gold Cup, Royal Ascot.  
June 18: King's Stand Stakes, Royal Ascot.  
June 26: Newcastle Brown Ale Northumberland Plate, Newcastle.  
June 27: Budweiser Irish Derby, Curragh.  
July 3: Coral-Eclipse Stakes, Sandown.  
July 6: Princess Of Wales's Stakes, Newmarket.  
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All Blacks' first tour for decade to serve as yardstick for double grand slam-winners

## England view five nations' as launchpad of campaign

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

ENGLAND's leading players will drink a toast to the new year in Lanzarote this evening — a year as demanding as any would wish for, since it incorporates the first tour in ten years by New Zealand. Of one thing the 30-strong training party can be sure: there will be no shortage of work, nor of demands upon their time, in 1993.

The management team which accompanies the squad when it flies to the Canaries early this morning (returning home on Tuesday) has two aims in mind: the five nations' championship, which begins against France on January 16, and sustaining form into next season so that the All Blacks meet the strongest possible opposition.

Geoff Cooke, the manager, has already indicated that New Zealand is the focal point for 1993. He knows, of course, that the best way to build confidence for that fixture in November is by winning the games before it, in the championship and on tour in North America in May.

These are the initial aims for the players, who will spend the next five days undergoing fitness tests and contributing to the strategy and tactics they hope will see them to a third successive grand slam (England's team to play the French at Twickenham will be announced on Sunday).

Since there is such a busy programme of A internationals, as well as the close-season tour, all 30 players may hope for representative honours of some kind over the next six months. But even allowing for the need to limit numbers, there are some curious omissions. The two positions most lacking depth in English rugby are full back and scrum half yet, if we are to take the management at its word, only one full back goes and two

scrum halves, while there are three stand-off halves.

You may argue that the cover for Jonathan Webb at full back is Ian Hunter, of Northampton, but that is not the selectors' perception. Cooke, asked if Hunter would play at No. 15 in the event of an injury to Webb, advised against making such an assumption and it has been stressed that, in the top flight, Hunter is seen as a wing.

So who will play full back against France? In the A international at Leicester on January 15? Alan Buzza, John Liley or Steve Filgrim? The Lanzarote squad does not tell us, and the opportunity has been missed to take another scrum half of the younger generation.

Devi Morris and Steve Bates continue their battle while Richard Hill, at home, ponders whether he has an international future. Aadel Kardooni and Dave Scully did not obviously look the part with the B side in New Zealand last summer, so, if England were in the business of gambling, they might have taken Matthew Dawson, of Northampton.

The decision to take Steve Ojomoh as an open-side flanker indicates that they are not averse to experimentation, so little would have been lost by taking Dawson for the experience. Dawson has only recently returned to scrum half, where he won schoolboy honours, because Northampton have required him at centre, but he showed in the divisional championship he may have a substantial future.

"We have great hopes for him," Cooke said. "He was in New Zealand playing club rugby when England B were there and he had hoped to come back and play scrum half at Northampton. He has a lot of work to do with the mechanics of scrum-half play, which he might have done in Lanzarote but which might be better done at club level."

□ The England Under-21 team will play seven matches on its first tour of Australia in July. The party will be managed by John Elliott, the senior England selector.

**FIXTURES** (all opponents under-21) July 3 v Western Australia (Perth); 7 v New South Wales (Sydney); 10 v Australian Capital Territory (Canberra); 13 v Queensland (Brisbane); 17 v Queensland Country (various); 20 v Queensland (Brisbane); 24 v Australia (Sydney).



England's second row prefers to play with an injury that requires surgery rather than miss internationals

## Bayfield chooses to shoulder pain

MARTIN Bayfield, the England second row forward, is to attempt to play through the five nations' championship and, he hopes, the British Lions tour to New Zealand in June with a split capsule in his left shoulder.

The diagnosis, from an arthroscopic examination, has revealed that Bayfield needs an operation and has been advised to have one by surgeons. However, the Northampton player considers his present programme too important to permit him a lengthy layoff.

Medical experts have told

him he would miss three or four months of rugby if he underwent surgery. By playing on he runs the risk of suffering arthritis in the joint when he gets older.

Bayfield said yesterday he was prepared to take that chance. "That may or may not happen and being young and irresponsible I'll worry about that if and when it happens."

However, England who will soon embark on their attempt at a unique third successive grand slam, will wish to make contingency plans should Bayfield suffer a serious breakdown during the international season.

The injury has prevented him playing since December 12. Representing the Midlands against the North, at

Waterloo, Bayfield suffered a blow on the shoulder which caused him intense pain and restricted his movement in the use of his arm.

"An awkward movement can jar it as the bone catches on soft tissue," he explained. "I will play on for the moment. If I have the time to have the operation done, or it gives me great concern, I may revise my current thinking. Otherwise I will have to grin and bear it."

"When it jars I lose feeling in the arm for a few seconds. Then there is no strength in the arm for two or three minutes. It is painful for another ten to 15 minutes but after that it just feels sore. At least I know now what it is."

The injury has troubled the

6ft 10in lock for much of the season. Had he discovered the precise damage earlier, it is certain he would have had an operation in October or November to correct the injury.

As it is, he feels there is too much at stake in the coming months to contemplate a lengthy layoff. However, it is possible the injury may decide matters for him if it flares up, although medical opinion suggests it ought not to deteriorate greatly.

Should it worsen, he may be forced to have surgery and it is by no means certain that the British Lions selectors would choose a player for so physically demanding a tour as New Zealand, knowing he was carrying an injury.

## HOCKEY

## Successive victories keep South East on course for title

By Sydney Friskin

AFTER conceding an early goal, South East beat North West 3-1 and put themselves in a strong position to retain the under-18 title in the junior divisional tournament at Birmingham yesterday.

A snap goal by Todd Eden shook South East, who squandered three short corners in the first half. Simon Collins levelled the score midway through the second half, and further goals followed from Simon Archer and Jon Axworthy.

South East also had a scare earlier in the day, when they scrambled a 2-1 win over West, who had the better of the second half and were unlikely to lose. The lead which Neil Brennan gave South East in the first minute, from a penalty stroke, was answered almost immediately by Jon Everett from a short corner. After that, West seized the initiative and kept a close watch on Archer, who eventually set up the chance for Axworthy to score the winning goal.

East kept their hopes alive with two successes during the day. Having beaten North West 1-0 in the morning with a goal by Amirur Rahman, they went on to defeat North East 3-0. Andrew Kennedy scored from a short corner and

a penalty stroke, and Chad Miah added to the score in the first half.

Guy Fordham, who plays for Hounslow in the national league, gave South East the lead from a penalty stroke early in the second half, but Matthew Allen forced a 1-1 draw by scoring soon after for Midlands.

South East made further progress at under-16 level with a 4-0 victory over West. Vitas Paux-Bowyer scored in the first minute from Daniel Poulsen's pass. In the first minute of the second half Alistair Boyce, going well on the right, centred for Matthew Osborne to score. Further goals followed by Poulsen and Boyce. East later put themselves in an even stronger position after a 3-0 win over South West.

Midlands hit three goals without reply against North East in a spell of ascendancy in the second half. Keith Resby and Michael Hartley scored from short corners and Sebastian Hamilton-Mudge from open play.

**RESULTS:** Under-18: Midlands 1, North 1; East 1, North West 0; South East 2, West 1; Midlands 1, South West 1; North East 3, South East 0; North 1, South West 3; North East 0, Under-16: Midlands 2, West 1; North West 0, North East 1; East 0, South West 0; West 0, East 1; Midlands 3, North East 0; North West 1, East 1; South East 3, South West 0.

## SCHOOLS SPORT

## Youngsters aim for second grand slam

By Christopher Dighton

WHILE the seniors contemplate a third successive grand slam from their warm-weather training camp in Lanzarote, the England 18 Group rugby team is making plans for a second under its new coach, Mike Williams.

Williams, who is also in charge of rugby at Sevenoaks School in Kent, has taken charge of the older boys after years supervising the 16 Group. The shape of his squad will become more defined in the next few weeks, when the four divisions in England pick their representative sides, but Williams has been busy laying foundations for the first international, against Wales at Tenby in mid-February.

"At the start of the season we sent fitness booklets to every player who has represented his county with an exercise designed to build up from last November," he said. "I have also written to all the 16 Group players of the last two years and the 18 Group. In the last few years between six and eight of the 16 Group players have graduated to the higher level."

London, announces its divi-

sional squad on January 4, followed by the North on January 10 and the Midlands and the South West on January 13. The home international series will end when England play Ireland on April 10, but then Williams will start preparing again for a summer tour to New Zealand.

"That will be an important trip and I know from experience that we will be playing some very hard games," Williams said. "The main difference is the time we have to do things compared with the southern hemisphere, where defences are very much quicker and the tackling is bone-shaking."

"Schools rugby in England has not fully cottoned on to the fact that the new laws allow for a handful of strong players to hold the opposition back, freeing more players to be strung across the pitch in defensive positions."

The England 18 Group, which could have been setting off in pursuit of a third grand slam this season but for a defeat by Wales two years ago, certainly face an uncompromising schedule.

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**THE TIMES SPORTING HERITAGE CALENDAR 1993 TOKEN 5**

## Rum and fun on the Jamaican circuit

Tom Clarke joins the golfers who showed Faldo and the other superstars what they missed on the world championship course

SO NICK Faldo came home from Jamaica for Christmas with £340,000 and the Johnnie Walker world championship of golf. Big deal!

But how many times did the faithful Fanny Sunesson gaze up from lugging her master's bag to greet another fairway-splitting drive with an eye-rolling hallelujah of "Musical swing, man!"? How many times did she watch a nine-iron soar and fall and nestle a couple of feet from the pin and then cry: "Solid gold, Nick! That's on the dancin' floor!"? And how many times did she celebrate a hole in one by somersaulting along the fairway? Never, never, and never.

That's the trouble with the big time: the money is too serious; the caddies are the occasional high-five apart, too solemn.

Faldo and Sunesson missed the fun circuit in Jamaica. They should have been with us a few weeks earlier: they would have met Leroy, Thomas, George, Oscar and the rest who believe that to caddy is to participate, to sing over success and to sneer over failure. Like Faldo, we played the

monster course of Tryall — and it was more of a beast for us. They were toughening the course, letting the rough grow thigh-high to within five yards of the fairway, ready for the superstars (only for it to be cut back when they arrived and reckoned it was too troublesome for their £1.8 million party). So we can be proud of own champion, Joe Wood, and his 32 Stableford points: the 80-points of Ballesteros and Forsbrand would have been ten points or more worse (barely better than my own embarrassing scores, which remain a private matter between me and the marker).

Tryall, with its growing reputation as the permanent home of the world championship and its televisual qualities (the real course is rearranged so television can cover the last seven holes of the Johnnie Walker event), is the standard-bearer of Jamaica's attempt to

promote its north coast, where the Blue Mountains reach down to the Caribbean, as an international golf destination.

For all but the very best players, Tryall is too heart-breaking and ball-losing for more than two or three visits. Our home course was Half Moon, to the east of Montego Bay, and some 15 miles from Tryall. Half Moon is a Robert Trent Jones design, long, heavily-bunkered and with long greens, all in fine order. It offered easy walking and better scoring but still nobody in our group of 19 golfers did better than 35 points.

We also played Runaway Bay, near Ocho Rios, and Wyndham Rose Hall, a couple of miles from Half Moon — both were fine tests, even though the latter was still recovering from the traffic of a professional tournament — and Sandals, the former Up-ton course near Ocho Rios, which is being refurbished.

The golf alone — and the joy of having somebody actually cheer one of your shots — is a good enough reason for visiting Jamaica. But there are other ways of burning off one round of rum punches and Red Stripes and building up a thirst for the next deep-sea fishing (we caught a 90lb snailfish during our two half-day trips), climbing through the foam of Dunn's River Falls at the end of the day after the cruise-ship hundreds have left, gliding down the Martha

Brae River on a bamboo raft while the guide scratches a pattern on a gourd and offers to sell it to you for "whatever you can afford, man", snorkelling in the buoyant and blue waters along the coral reef, tennis by floodlight.

Jamaica is perhaps best visited, as we did, with a party of friends (alone on the streets of Montego Bay at night would be as unwise as it would be in New York or Naples) and to stay in a villa. Most of the food we ate in restaurants or roadside bars was more than pleasant, but the best meals — and the best fun —

were either at our home base, prepared by the staff of our villas, or at one of the imaginative "Meet the people" evenings run by the Jamaica Tourist Board.

□ We travelled by British Airways: onward direct from Gatwick to Montego Bay; homeward via a rather tedious stop-over at Kingston. We stayed in two huge villas (owned by Richard Russell Villars, PO Box 80, Montego Bay, Jamaica) with access to all the facilities at the Half Moon Hotel. Kuoni Travel offers golf packages in Jamaica.

## WORD WATCHING

**REHOBOMAM** (n) and (f), cognates for Rehoboth, son of Solomon. King of Judah, I Kings xiv.16. Charlotte Brontë: "A personage of short stature bearing on broad shoulders a hawk's head, the whole surmounted by a Rehobomam." "A rehobomam of claret or rum is a double jereboam."

**OPTIMIFIC** (v) Producing the maximum good consequences, from the Latin *optimus* best + *-fic* making. "The first half of Universalistic Ethical Hedonism, to wit the theory that being optimistic is the one and only right-making characteristic."

**INDENTER** (n) Something that produces indentations, spec. a small hard, sphere, pyramid, or similar object used for producing an indentation in a solid (as in an indentation test). "All three are indentation tests in which a weighted steel ball or other indenter is applied to the test piece. The hardness is assessed according to the size of the impression."

**MESETA** (n) A plateau, spec. the high plateau of central Spain, diminutive of the Spanish *mesa*, from Latin *mensa* a table. "The regions of the high meseta — the Castiles, Aragon, Leon, and Extremadura."

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The black queen is rounded up with 1.Bd2.



Champion hurdler collapses shortly after finishing fourth on seasonal reappearance

# Royal Gait dies of heart attack after race

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

ROYAL Gait, the champion hurdler, died of a heart attack seconds after finishing fourth in the Bookmakers Hurdle at Leopardstown yesterday.

"He was only cruising as we rounded the final turn but coming to the last hurdle he began to falter and I feared that he had broken down," Graham McCourt, his jockey, said. "Then he began to wobble under me and I knew the worst."

James Fanshawe, Royal Gait's trainer, said: "I am absolutely devastated. He gave me the best day I've had in racing at Cheltenham in March. After all the setbacks he has surmounted, what a shame that this should happen."

Controversy and Royal Gait have never been far apart, notably when he was disqualified after finishing first in the 1988 Ascot Gold Cup.

The much-travelled stayer had entered the record books the previous year by becoming the first horse from Spain, where he had seven different trainers, to win the group one Prix du Cadran at Longchamp.

He subsequently joined John Fowell at Chantilly and won the Ascot Gold Cup in a career only to have the race taken away from him when jockey Cash Asmussen was found guilty of careless riding. The decision was confirmed at an appeal enquiry.

Royal Gait was later bought by Shaikh Mohammed but leg trouble forced him into retirement and it was a fine feat on the part of the shaikh's staff at Kildangan Stud to nurse him back to soundness, an achievement crowned by his Champion Hurdle triumph.

In defeating Oh So Risky by half a length to claim hurdling's most coveted prize at Cheltenham in March, Royal Gait became the first novice to win the Champion Hurdle since Doorknocker in 1956.

The death of Royal Gait overshadowed the outcome of the Bookmakers Hurdle in which Charlie Swan displayed the talent which enabled him

to break all Irish jumping records this year in getting Novello Allegro home by a head from Muir Station.

There was a four-length gap back to Richard Dunwoody's mount, Crowded House, who in turn was two lengths in front of Royal Gait.

Muir Station ran a good trial for the Ladbroke on Saturday week but Jim Bolger, his trainer, said that the four-year-old would miss the Leopardstown race.

Novello Allegro and Crowded House will also bypass The Ladbroke and will meet again at Leopardstown in the AIG Irish Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown on January 31.

Noel Meade, the winning trainer, said: "He only does what he has to on the run-in and that's why it developed into a bit of a scramble. I think he has earned the right to a crack at the Irish Champion before we make any further plans."

Meade added: "He was hounded after his disappointing run at Liverpool in April and that seems to have made a big difference."

Barry Kelly, trainer of Crowded House, hopes to run him in both the Irish and English Champion Hurdles.

Bookmakers reshuffled their Cheltenham odds following the death of Royal Gait, both William Hill and Coral shortening the favourite, Mighty Mogul, from 3-1 to 5-2.

Hills bet: 5-2 Mighty Mogul, 4-1 Halkopous, 8-1 Vintage Crop, 10-1 Morley Street, Destrier, Staunch Friend, 12-1 Granville Again, 16-1 bar, Novello Allegro is 33-1.

Coral offer: 5-2 Mighty Mogul, 4-1 Halkopous, 10-1 Destrier, Granville Again, Vintage Crop, 12-1 Morley Street, Staunch Friend, 16-1 bar.

## Leopardstown details

GOING: yielding  
1.40 BOOKMAKERS HURDLE (rated race) 12.4.7.20. 2m. 1. NOVELLO ALLEGRO (C Swan, 5-1); 2. Muir Station (C Bolger, 7-1); 3. Crowded House (R Dunwoody, 8-1); ALSO RAN: 11-10 bar Royal Gait (C Swan, 5-1); 14-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 15-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 16-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 17-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 18-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 19-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 20-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 21-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 22-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 23-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 24-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 25-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 26-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 27-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 28-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 29-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 30-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 31-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 32-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 33-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 34-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 35-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 36-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 37-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 38-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 39-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 40-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 41-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 42-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 43-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 44-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 45-1 bar Cook (C Swan, 5-1); 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# Fletcher plays down India's defeat in South Africa



Gavaskar: harsh critic

After a day on the front pages for Graham Gooch and for acclimatisation for his team, the serious business of the England tour began in Delhi yesterday with the squad having two sessions in the nets at the impressive air force ground at Palam.

There were, inevitably, mixed performances, some players showing signs of jetlag. Among them was Gooch, whose day began badly when he went into the spinners' net and was promptly bowled by one of the locals, Panhaji Maitrey, 23, a left-arm bowler who plays for the Combined Services.

"Graham seemed as if his mind was still on the plane," the team manager, Keith Fletcher, said afterwards. "He's struggling a bit, his feet

were not moving too well. But the players were very sluggish, they hadn't slept well and it looked like it the way we played."

Things improved after lunch, Gooch returning to the nets for two further knocks with happier results. For him to have trouble with spinners, whom he usually dismisses with a certainty bordering on contempt, is rare enough for it to be remarked upon.

The facilities as a whole so impressed Fletcher that he rated them as being worth 80 per cent of actual play in the middle. Nets do not get much better than that, and Devon Malcolm, who is not usually the best bowler at practice, was encouraged to slip himself, hitting the stumps more than once. Jarvis also looked sharp and apart from the effects of

Peter Ball, who is in Delhi with the England team, believes Azharuddin will be replaced as India's captain for the forthcoming series

jetlag, the players seem in good order.

Robin Smith, the one injury problem, contented himself with running and exercising in the morning. In the afternoon he played in the spinners' net with a protective covering over his knee, which was injured in the last session at Lillehall before Christmas.

He will not play in the first match, against Delhi, the Ranji Trophy champions, which begins at Faridabad on Sunday. "If he got hit on the toe, it could set him back two weeks. If there was a crisis, our Test match next week he could

play, but there is no point in rushing him," Fletcher said.

The debate about the use of a third umpire continues and Fletcher repeated his approval. "We wouldn't have any objections if India want to introduce it," he said, although suggestions from Indian journalists that the quality of their television pictures might make it a dubious asset were acknowledged with a smile.

Although Fletcher and Gooch are in favour, there has still been no indication that the Indian board will propose it. Fletcher also conceded that

delays while a film was re-run half-a-dozen times would worry him. He knows how slow over-rates in this country can be.

Not even the presence of a third umpire satisfied Azharuddin, the Indian captain, blaming some poor umpiring decisions as well as bad batting for his side's latest result in South Africa. The search has begun for scapegoats and Azharuddin seems unlikely to survive as captain.

Crickets still has a strong hold on India. Yesterday we counted four sets of boys or youths playing impromptu games on waste ground inside a mile and that sort of enthusiasm makes the present disarray even harder to bear. Soul-searching is widespread.

Yesterday, Sunil Gavaskar became the latest to add his voice to the "condemnation, calling for a 'fresh team' to be selected for the series against England in his column in *The Times of India*. Gavaskar conceded that Azharuddin had got a debatable decision in the third Test and excused Shastri for a ball which took off from a length. But otherwise he was scathing. He described the batting as "a pathetic show" and condemned a lack of fight and application. "One felt sorry for them, as most of them were contributing to their omission from the side to play England in the new year."

His sympathy, however, was limited. "This Indian team looks mentally jaded and tired, as is evident from the way they are batting," he wrote. "If that is the case it would be better to rest them if you do not want to call it

dropping them) and hope that the rest from the pressures and tensions of international cricket will make them eager to come back and perform as one expects."

Whether replacements would prove more durable may be questioned. But India will take some heart from the success of the spinners, Raju and Kumble. That may give Fletcher, who was dismissive of Kumble after seeing him earlier in the series, something to think about. The England manager yesterday insisted that he will not read too much into the happenings in South Africa. "The Indian team may be a different proposition at home," he told some sceptical Indian journalists.

Whether the Indian selectors are as cautious remains to be seen.

## West Indies collapse to Warne's leg spin

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

SHANE Warne, who had been brought into Australia's team in place of Dean Jones, spun them to a 139-run victory over West Indies in the second Test at Melbourne yesterday.

The slight, blond-haired leg spinner took seven wickets for 52 runs, totally bemusing the batsmen with his flight and turn after breaking a second-wicket partnership of 134 between Simmons and Richardson, the captain, which had given West Indies a platform for an assault on a victory target of 359.

Richardson reached 52 before he was bowled by Warne just before lunch, the second wicket to fall in an innings which then crumbled at such a rate that the match had been completed by the tea interval.

Phil Simmons, who scored his maiden Test century, looked in vain for a permanent partner after his captain's dismissal as Warne, playing in only his fifth Test, ran through the rest of the batting to become the first bowler of his type to take more than five wickets in a Test innings on the ground.

West Indies, all out for 219, thus went 1-0 down in the five-match series and they have never recovered from such a deficit to win a series against Australia.

Simmons, who was 80 not out at lunch, was eventually sixth out at 198. His 110 runs came off 178 deliveries and he had hit two sixes and eight fours when he became another victim for Warne, caught by Boon.

Richardson had no excuses. "I think that generally we were outplayed," he said. "Maybe if

we had taken a few catches early on it would have been a different story," Richardson said he wanted to put Warne's performance in perspective. "You have to remember there are a spinners who come in and take a lot of wickets in a match and you never hear of them again. I don't think our batsmen are afraid of him. We respect him as a Test player but he's not a worry."

Warne, who is a keen surfer said: "It would have to be close to the best I've ever bowled. I've had doubts that I could play at this level but I've had great support from everyone and now I feel a lot more comfortable."

Australia have named an unchanged squad for the third Test which starts on Saturday at Sydney, where spin bowlers usually have a large part to play. The West Indies may decide to leave out Carl Hooper.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 395 (M E Waugh 112, A R Border 110; C A Walsh 4 for 91). Second innings 198 (D R Maitrey 67 not out).

WEST INDIES: First innings 233 (K L T Arthurton 71, B C Lane 62; C J McDermott 4 for 88).

Second innings: D L Haynes c Maitrey b Hughes 5; P V Simmons c Boon b Warne 110; R B Richardson b Warne 52; B C Lane c Boon b Warne 4; K L Arthurton c Maitrey b Warne 13; C J McDermott c Maitrey b Warne 0; J D Williams c Maitrey b Warne 16; D Williams c Maitrey b Warne 0; R B Bishop c Taylor b Warne 7; C E Walsh c Hughes b Warne 6; Extras (b 3, nb 1) 6.

Total 219.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-143, 3-148, 4-185, 5-177, 6-198, 7-208, 8-208, 9-219.

BOWLING: McDermott 17-6-65-1; Hughes 16-7-41-1; Warne 10-2-32-1; Warne 22-2-8-27-1; M E Waugh 3-0-23-0.

Men of the match: S K Warne.

PREVIOUS MATCHES: First Test: Match drawn (Riverton).

MATCHES TO COME: Third Test: Jan 2 to 6 (Sydney); Fourth Test: Jan 28 to 27 (Adelaide); Fifth Test: Jan 30 to Feb 3 (Perth).

## Crowe seals series as Pakistan fail with bat

Auckland: New Zealand beat Pakistan by six wickets in a one-day international yesterday to win the three-match series 2-1.

Pakistan's batsmen failed for a third time, being bowled out for 139 in the 48th over at Eden Park, where they beat New Zealand in the World Cup semi-final.

New Zealand, at one stage in trouble at 45 for three, were steered to victory by Martin Crowe, the man of the match, who scored 57 not out and Ken Rutherford, who hit 28.

The win was set up by New Zealand's tight bowling attack. Willie Watson took four for 27, the best figures of his career, removing Rameez Raja and Saeed Anwar in consecutive balls and taking the crucial wicket of Javed Miandad. (Reuters)

PAKISTAN: Rameez Raja b Watson 22; Shahid Azeem run out 17; Salim Malik c Crowe b Watson 25; Saeed Anwar c Parsons b Watson 30; Imran-ul-Haq run out 2; Wasim Akram c Parsons b Watson 9; Nawaz Anjum c Parsons b Watson 0; Waqar Younis c Crowe b Watson 6; Murtaza Ahmed c Greenbush b Watson 6; Extras (b 3, nb 3) 6.

Total 139.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-43, 3-47, 4-75, 5-77, 6-123, 7-123, 8-127, 9-128.

BOWLING: Watson 10-1-27-4; Parsons 10-2-25-0; Watson 8-4-1-27-4; Latham 10-2-20-1; Harris 6-1-22-1; Jones 2-0-6-0; Latham 1-0-7-0.

NEW ZEALAND: M J Greenbush c Murtaza b Watson 24; R T Latham c Imran b Watson 9; A H Jones b Anwar 0; M D Crowe not out 57; K R Rutherford b Murtaza 28; C Z Harris not out 11; Extras (b 3, nb 3) 6.

Total 140.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-34, 3-45, 4-105.

BOWLING: Watson 9-2-28-1; Waugh 10-2-27-1; Anjum 10-1-20-1; Murtaza 6-1-24-1; Salim 1-0-4-0; Shahid 3-0-14-0.

Men of the match: M D Crowe.

## The loneliness of the frustrated seam bowler



Before and after: Fraser harrying the batsmen — and now racing to regain fitness and form after another operation.



## Fraser renews effort to reach Test peak

By IVO TENNANT

ANGUS Fraser would have established himself by now as one of the finest bowlers of his type, as well as of the age, had he been given immunity from injury. The sad reality is that he is now more accomplished at dealing in unit trusts than in playing first-class cricket.

Bald statistics tell the story. Last season Fraser took only 18 championship wickets for Middlesex, and they cost him 64 runs apiece. He finished bottom of their averages. Inevitably, there are those who wonder whether he will ever again be the bowler who was an integral part of England's side — the

"captain's dream" as Graham Gooch called him. In the two years since he damaged a hip in Australia, there have been scant discernible signs of recovery.

Until now, in his latest operation, earlier this month, some loose bodies were successfully cleared out. Fraser has been told he can begin light training early in the new year, gradually increasing it until he joins England's fringe players at Lillehall in February and March. Then, in April he will be with Middlesex in Portugal. "Obviously I have to get myself as fit as possible before the summer and I won't know whether I can put in maximum effort until

I start bowling," he said. "But I am optimistic. I did not achieve much statistically last season, yet I did feel I was getting somewhere by the end of it." He was fit enough to walk 22 miles one day in October for Ian Botham and clarity.

There were times, earlier in the season, when depression became the handmaiden of frustration. In a championship match at Grace Road, Fraser had an altercation with one or two colleagues who overdid their encouragement, as Middlesex players tend to do.

He sulked on the boundary and wondered aloud in the pavilion whether he really wanted to be a stock

bowler for the rest of his career. That is one option as he proved in helping Middlesex win the Sunday league last season. But not for an England bowler, still to reach his prime.

"My problem is partly in the mind. But it is disappointing being hidden, bowling a few overs and watching the ball going to someone else," he said. In addition to his accuracy and meanness at a sharp medium, his reputation had been forged on a stubborn desire to bowl all day. When he broke down on the 1990-91 tour of Australia, it was not long after he nearly collapsed in the dressing room in the second Test at Melbourne.

His figures of six for 82 were the best of his 11-Test career, during which he took 47 wickets at 26 apiece.

Now 27 and recompensed by Whittingdale in the City of London, Fraser does not wallow in self-pity, still less in self-delusion. He will know if and when he is ready for Test cricket. He confines himself for the time being to the odd pithy comment.

It is as if he had more in common with Alec Bedser than he already realised. To Fraser, the batsman who does not walk is every bit as much of a cheat as the ball-tamper. He is as uncomplicated as Bedser, as big-hearted and still potentially as great a bowler.

## Referees' powers may have to widen

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN PORT ELIZABETH

AS THE number of cricketers disciplined for bad behaviour mounts around the world, the International Cricket Council's (ICC) new code of conduct has surely proved its worth. Fines and suspensions admittedly bring a jarring note but are clearly necessary since the game became more aggressive and competitive in recent years.

When Sir Colin Cowdrey, the ICC chairman, introduced the code little more than 15 months ago, he admitted it might need revising in the light of experience. One problem to emerge from the present series between South Africa and India has been the different tolerance level for what is acceptable behaviour and what is not.

Many South Africans were amazed when, in the third Test match this week, Mike Smith, the former England captain and ICC match referee, saw no need to intervene after two Indians showed dissent at decisions. In separate incidents, more angry threw the ball to the ground and Shastri, the non-striker, hurled his bat away in dismay.

Both players crossed the narrow border line between disappointment and dissent but were not reported officially to Smith by the two South African umpires, who have limited experience at this level. As the ICC code's regulations stand, Smith was entitled to decide that he was not required to take action in the absence of any complaint being lodged.

As referee, though, Smith is also allowed under the rules to investigate any incident, whether it has been reported or not. Smith was almost alone in thinking that there was no need for him to take unilateral action on both occasions.

To be fair, the code has been framed deliberately to avoid any infringement of the umpires' traditional responsibilities for all on-field judgments. In future, however, the ICC might have to consider whether referees should be asked to intervene directly more often if umpires fail to be strict enough.

The South African board is particularly conscious of the need for players to behave properly, as the series is being shown extensively on television throughout the country as part of its drive to create interest in communities where cricket has not previously been widely played.

There was an object lesson earlier in the tour of how youngsters emulate what they see, when Kapil Dev ran out Kirsten, the non-striker, for backing up in a one-day international here. The next day, a similar incident took place in an under-13 tournament in Bloemfontein. The bowler admitted he had seen what had happened on television the previous evening.

# THE ENGLAND TOUR OF INDIA

BALL-BY-BALL COVERAGE OF THE THREE TESTS AND ALL SIX ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS. LIVE AND EXCLUSIVE ONLY ON SKY. FROM JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>





## YACHTING

## Nuclear Electric heads nail-biting race for Hobart

By Barry Pickthall

THE leading crews in the British Steel Challenge were squeezing every last bit of speed out of their yachts last night in a nail-biting drag race over the final 500 miles to the finish of this second stage of the race at Hobart, Tasmania.

Richard Merriweather and the crew on the second-placed yacht Commercial Union pulled back three miles overnight on their leading rivals Nuclear Electric. Two other teams, Pride of Teesside and Group 4 Securitas were racing alongside each other with Coopers & Lybrand chasing three miles astern.

After the two yachts came into sight for the first time yesterday, Mike Golding, Group 4's skipper reported: "After 7,000 miles, it was our first sighting of another yacht

since breaking away from the fleet towards Florianopolis (Brazil) to repair our forestay. The whole crew came on deck as Pride of Teesside approached and crossed our stern about a mile away."

The Heath Insurance crew can look forward to as much as a 16 hour allowance for the time they lost going to the aid of British Steel II after she was dismantled two weeks ago. If the international jury in Hobart agree to the calculations made by Captain Spencer Drummond, the race director, this could lift the yacht to fourth place. Golding's Group 4 crew are due to receive as much as 12 hours for their efforts in providing fuel to the dismantled crew.

To complicate matters, Ian MacGillivray, the skipper of Pride of Teesside, is also

claiming compensation for altering course, needlessly as it turned out to provide British Steel with further fuel, but he is unlikely to get as much time as Group 4.

Assuming the yachts maintain their relative positions within the fleet until Tasmania, John Chittenden and his leading crew on Nuclear Electric who could reach Hobart as early as Sunday, 13 days ahead of original estimates, holds a provisional lead over the fleet on overall elapsed time. Based on yesterday's positions, Chittenden's team has a 17 hour advantage over Hottelau Lager, followed by Heath Insurance a further three hours adrift after these first two legs from Southampton.

However, with the winds expected to back to the south-west and drop to 15 knots overnight, benefiting the yachts to the south of this tightly bunched fleet, fingers are being crossed.

Richard Tudor and his crew on British Steel II, now motoring towards Chatham Island, were told yesterday that their new mast cannot be air freighted to them in time for their arrival in Wellington at the weekend. Instead, the mast will be air freighted to Sydney and trans-shipped to Hobart, arriving there on January 12. Tudor and his crew are now expected to stop in Wellington to refuel again then continue to Hobart under power.

LEADING POSITIONS at 1500 GMT yesterday with miles to Hobart: 1. Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden) 587 miles; 2. Commercial Union (P Merriweather) 600; 3. Hottelau Lager (P Gould) 602; 4. Group 4 Securitas (M Golding) and Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray) 1,030; 5. Coopers & Lybrand (V Chery) 1,032; 6. Heath Insurance (A Drummond) 1,046; 7. Interplay (P Jiffen) 1,226; 8. Phoenix-Polans (P Phillips) 1,725. (Notes: British Steel II (J Tudor) dismantled and heading for Chatham Island. Cf Race information supplied by BT.

## Ragamuffin hoists the pennant high

Hobart: Syd Fischer, Australia's leading ocean-racing competitor for more than two decades, has at last won the prize that has eluded him longest: the Tattersalls Cup for International Offshore Rule handicap winner in the Sydney-Hobart race (Bob Ross writes).

Sailing the 50-footer Ragamuffin, the eighth boat of that name he has owned, Fischer, 65, was yesterday declared to be unbeatable, although smaller IOR yachts were still at sea.

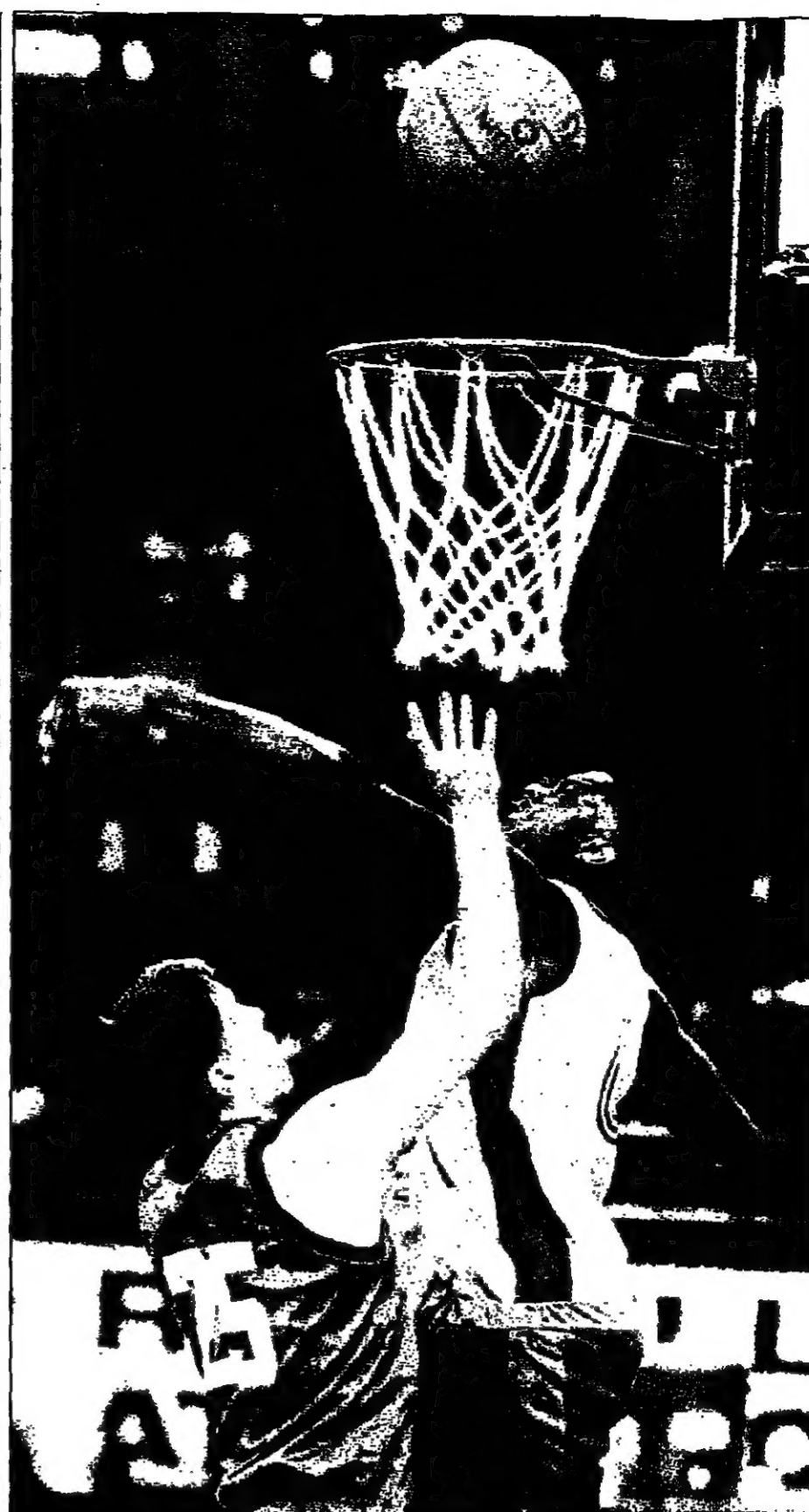
Second on IOR corrected time was the line-honours winner, the maxi ketch, New Zealand Endeavour, designed and built for the 1993-4

Whitbread Round the World Race. Third was Atara, last year's winner.

Fischer had twice taken line honours in the race, won Britain's classic Fastnet race, captained the winning Australian Admiral's Cup team of 1989, and won the One Ton Cup.

He will captain the Australian team to challenge for the Admiral's Cup in Britain in 1993.

RESULTS: International Offshore Rule (provisional): 1. Ragamuffin (S Fischer, Aus), corrected time 2:16:45; 2. New Zealand Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ), 2:22:11; 3. Atara (J Storey, Ir), 2:28:17; 4. Salermencia (M J Pigeau, Aus), 3:00:25. International Measurement System: 1. Endeavour (G Dalton, Aus), 2:16:45; 2. Morning Mile II (A Neale, Aus), 2:18:47; 3. Zero III (S Tsumura, Japan), 2:18:17; 4. Oz Fire (D Coulter, Aus), 2:18:05.



Juniors James Harrison, of Guildford, left, and Parris Gordon, of East London, rise high before yesterday's world invitation basketball championship

## Spanish eyes at ears find time for Robinson's style

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

Madrid: Michael Robinson has used his foreigner's Spanish and sharp wit to emerge as Spain's No. 1 radio and television sports personality, something he admits he never was as a footballer, even in his heyday in Liverpool's 1984 European Cup-winning team.

"To be quite honest, I'm shocked by the success I've had here," he said. "I'm really loving it at the moment but frightened to death if I analyse it too much I'll lose it. I won't even buy a house here for fear it might jinx me," he added.

Robinson is all over Spanish radio and television, speaking his English-accented Spanish an average of 20 hours per week and earning more than he ever did playing for teams like Liverpool, Manchester United and Queens Park Rangers.

It's his slightly off-centre Spanish that seems to hold the audience. "He'd lose some of his charisma if he spoke perfect Spanish," his wife Chris, said.

Robinson's Spanish is good but the fact that it's imperfect allows him to get away with syntax and content that native speakers might not.

"I think I have a simple, down-to-earth style which most football fans can identify with," said the former striker. "I have little sayings I use in Spanish. With my style I think working class people feel I'm speaking to them."

Robinson, 34, went to Spain in 1987 to play for Pamplona-based Osasuna in the Spanish first division. It turned out to be the last leg of his playing career that ended in 1989 when his knees finally had enough.

Unable to play, Robinson tore up his contract, a move that seemed to catch Spaniards by surprise. "In England it would have been seen as a done thing. I couldn't have lived with myself collecting money and not playing," Robinson said.

in said. "Here it was seen as more unusual, a noble thing to do."

Refusing the money, and the news coverage Robinson got for doing it, caught the attention of state-run Spanish Television (TVE), which hired him to do commentary on the English League. Shortly after, Robinson also caught on selling air time for the pan-European cable TV channel, Eurosport.

But his big break came covering the 1990 World Cup for TVE. "Things seemed to go particularly well for me," Robinson said. "Before, only insomniacs saw me on those late-night English League shows."

Then came an offer from Canal Plus, the private television station, followed by another from the radio network Cadena Ser. Robinson hosts two television programs weekly and at least five radio shows, and will cover the upcoming five nations' rugby union season.

Though English, Robinson played 23 times internationally for the Republic of Ireland, qualifying to play for the Irish through his ancestry. He admits he is better in the booth than on the field.

"That's not too hard to do," he said. "I consider myself a fine student of the game but was never quite able to put into practice what I understood. Maybe I'm more comfortable talking about it."

Maybe, but only if he's speaking Spanish. Robinson said one of his most difficult moments came about six months ago doing Brazilian Cup commentary in English, not Spanish, for BBC television.

"All the phrases I have, all the stock things I fall back on are in Spanish," Robinson said. "I kept slipping out with Spanish words and saying things like 'numero eight', mixing the languages."

## ATHLETICS: FORMER CHAMPION CONFIDENT OF RESTORING CROSS COUNTRY TRADITION

## Stewart sees British gold in the distance

By DAVID POWELL  
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IAN Stewart, who has been given the chance by the British Athletic Federation (BAF) to work off his frustration at the standard of men's distance running in Britain, says that it may take five years before the results of his labours can be counted in gold medals.

Stewart, the last Briton to win the men's world cross country title, nearly 20 winters ago, begins work soon as the BAF's road running and cross country promotions officer. Although he has been hired to enhance the profile of the poor relations of track and field, he recognises that his job will be impossible without successful British distance runners to promote.

Therefore, helping to develop a breed of British runners capable of taking on the Africans is uppermost in his mind. But it will take five

years, he says, because his work will start with the juniors, the 17 to 19-year-olds.

"Our seniors are not going to change their habits because I tell them to," Stewart said. "Our future lies with the juniors and how they are brought up."

At a recent national coaches conference, Stewart despaired when one coach told him that his athletes were more interested in money than medals. "The point we have to make to these kids is that medals mean a lot more money," Stewart said. Money from endorsements, sponsors' bonuses and appearance fees. Already Stewart has begun to put the message across, staging a young athletes' seminar in Birmingham three weeks ago. He would run one for the seniors, but doubts whether it would be supported.

He is scathing about the standard of men's distance running in Britain and his

concern for the future is understandable. No British male came remotely near a medal in any event from 800 metres upwards at the world junior championships in Seoul in September, nor in the world junior cross country championships in Boston last March.

"We have got problems, no question," Stewart said. But he rejects the argument that the Africans have too many natural advantages.

"A West German (Dieter Baumann) won the 5,000 metres at the Olympics and that could have been a Brit as easily as a West German, surely," Stewart said. "The 10,000 metres at the Olympics and world championships were won in the 27min 40sec range, so we are not talking about times out of this world."

"We have pussy-footed around for too long. Are we not better shooting at the moon and missing than aiming at the gutter and hitting?" Stewart is well qualified to judge others. Apart from his world cross country victory in 1975, he is a former European 5,000 metres champion. There are those who disagree with his appointment, the first of its kind in Britain, claiming that his propensity for speaking his mind is not suited to sports promotion. But look



Stewart: concerned

## MOTOR SPORT

## Paris-Dakar entries well down

THE beginning of a new year would not be the same without problems affecting the start of the Paris to Dakar rally. After a break with tradition last year, when the rally switched to Cape Town as a destination, the organisers have returned to the Sahara's desert tracks for 1993 and the event starts tomorrow against the usual backdrop of political battles, difficulties with the route and team withdrawals.

The new French laws concerning tobacco sponsorship have dealt a heavy blow to the 16-day rally, as has the uncertain political climate in several African countries, including

Mali, where a French competitor was shot dead in 1991.

Most of the mileage in the fourteenth Le Dakar will be in the Sahara as competitors cross Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania before reaching the finish in Senegal on January 16.

The loss of tobacco sponsorship has helped reduce the overall entry of car and motorcycle teams to 155, compared with 343 last year. But there is still considerable quality with factory entries from Citroen, Mitsubishi, KIA, Yamaha and Honda.

Mitsubishi took the honours in Cape Town last year while

Citroen will be looking to repeat their victory in the Paris to Dakar event. Favourite again is Finland's Ari Vatanen, whose victory in 1991 brought his number of wins in the race to four.

His Citroen team-mates include the Paris-Peking winner, Pierre Lartigue, of France, Timo Salonen, who like Vatanen is a former world rally champion, and the 1992 Paris-Cape Town winner Hubert Auriol, the only man to have won the race driving a car and riding a motorcycle. He will be partnered by a former motorcycle colleague, Gilles Picard.

## SPORT ON TELEVISION

## BSkyB expands golf coverage in US

BRITISH Sky Broadcasting yesterday announced it would be screening 40 tournaments from the 1993 United States PGA Tour. The schedule includes the US Open and the US PGA Championship but not the Masters, which is not run by the US PGA.

The deal, for mainly live transmissions, will dent Screensport's reputation as the

main golf channel on satellite television. Screensport has been showing the US Tour, as well as the European Tour.

Sky's US golf coverage, which starts with the Tournament of Champions at Carlsbad, California, next week, will fit around its football, rugby league and cricket programmes. On Sunday, January 10, for example, Sky will

feature the Premier League match between Sheffield Wednesday and Norwich City, followed by rugby league until 9pm, and then the American golf until midnight.

David Livingstone will be the presenter for the golf programmes, for which the expert analysis will be Tony Jacklin and Ken Brown, both former US Tour members.

## SPORTS LETTERS

## Negative effects of anthems

From Mr J. S. Hunter

Sir, The furore over the playing of national anthems before the England v South Africa rugby union international at Twickenham last month worried me.

The uneasy relationship between anthems and nationalism, and the oft-mistaken equation of nationalism with patriotism, gives me concern enough without their involvement in sport in a way which may only have negative side-effects for all parties.

Unfortunate connections between nationalism and sport can be traced back over many years and certainly there is clear evidence that we have never removed from sport the vestiges of this connection so strongly established at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. The connection can manifest itself in many ways, from the self-destructive to the nationally demeaning.

With regard to the self-destructive, many will vividly recall images of tears streaming down the cheeks of Paul Thorburn, to the strains of the Welsh anthem "Hen Wlad y Nhadau" (to the ultimate god of no party involved).

With regard to the nationally demeaning, who can but abhor the hordes of supporters, of football, particularly, who define the national anthem via its use as a "battering", whilst wearing accompanying insignia, such as Union Jacks emblazoned on chests or buttocks?

However, do we not encourage both extremes, and intermediate types, of behaviour through insistence on the use of the national anthem at some sporting occasions in the first place?

By establishing a connection between the anthem and sport, is not the door opened for rampant nationalism of the worst kind? In fact, do not many supporters, and some players, use the cloak of nationalism (made respectable by the anthem) to commit excesses which go relatively unpunished in the name of "nationalism"?

The examples given earlier contrast strongly with the absence of anthems from occasions such as the Wimbledon tennis and the Open golf championships. Are there not obvious lessons to be learnt?

Certainly they are compatible with my view that the national anthem should be used only in its rightful place, ie, at occasions of state attended by the Queen — to the advantage of sport, I would contend, but most importantly, for the guaranteed respect of the anthem itself.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN S. HUNTER,  
Head,  
School of Physical Education and Sport,  
West London Institute,  
Borough Road,  
Isleworth,  
Middlesex.

## Worry over discipline

From Mr D. P. Hewavidana

Sir, Now that the England team has begun its tour of England and Sri Lanka, am I the only one who has great concern over its discipline under the new team manager?

Nearly two years ago Richard Streeton described (February 18, 1991) the following incident during an England A "Test" match in Colombo: "Newport... strode angrily down the pitch and said something. He walked away at the end of the over, shouted an obscenity, and threw his sun hat and towel on the ground and kicked them... Keith Fletcher, the team manager, was surprisingly tolerant afterwards. He said: 'Every bowler is entitled to 'blow up' occasionally. He will not be fined...'"

I rest my case.  
Yours faithfully,  
DEVSIKIRI P.  
HEWAVIDANA,  
119 Grasmere Street,  
Leicester.

## Name of the game

From Mr Hugh Pallot

Sir, I was interested to read in a football report earlier this season of Holmes setting up a goal for Watson in a cup-tie between Cusack and Norwich. It sounded like a much more appropriate combination than Holmes and Moriarty, of the Welsh rugby union side of a few years ago.

Such aptness is apparently not uncommon in football. Only Andy May's close-season transfer from Bristol City prevented Bryant and May from continuing to light up Ashton Gate with their skills this season, while Gilbert and Sullivan (Billy and Cofin) collaborated briefly in the Portsmouth back four in the early Eighties.

My favourite is the all-Labour prime ministerial mid-field of Leicester City in the mid-1980s. Ramsey, MacDonald and Wilson. I also like Flanagan and Allen of Crystal Palace. There must be more famous duos (or trios) who have been reincarnated in league football.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH PALLOT,  
96 Laleham Road,  
Staines, Middlesex.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046.







## BBC

**6.00 Ceefax** (08219)  
**7.00 News**, regional news and weather (5878344)  
**7.10 Children's BBC** begins with *Hallo Spencer*, Puppet series (7) (2535219) 7.30 *Bahar*, Animation (7) (9140851)  
**8.00 News**, regional news and weather (705702) 8.10 *Cuckoo*land (7) (2847783) 8.30 *Sawney* (7) (1650763)  
**9.00 News**, regional news and weather (580764) 9.05 *Come Midnight Monday*, First episode of the Australian drama series (7) (4122670)  
**9.25 Why Don't You?** Ideas for youngsters at a loose end (5) (525767)  
**10.25 Film: On the Town** (1935) starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Munshin. One of the great MGM musicals, following the amorous adventures of three sailors on a 24-hour shore leave in New York. Directed by Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly (38357508)  
**12.05 Talk to the Animals!** A profile of Samantha Khury who claims that she can communicate with animals (7) (8029784) 12.55 *Regional News and Weather* (5122238)  
**1.00 News** with Andrew Harvey, (Ceefax) Weather (40752764) 1.10 *Neighbours*, (Ceefax) (7) (11378821)  
**1.30 Film: The Boy Who Could Fly** (1986) starring Lucy Deakins and Jay Underwood. Warm family film about a sensitive girl who moves to a new neighbourhood and befriends an autistic orphan boy. Directed by Nick Castle, (Ceefax) (7) (2575852) 3.10 *Cartoon* (5082632)  
**3.20 The Little Tattered Pets**, With Esther Rantzen (3025764)



Newly married: Robert Redford and Jane Fonda (3.50pm)

**3.50 Film: Barefoot in the Park** (1967) starring Robert Redford and Jane Fonda. Neil Simon's comedy about a newly-married couple living in a ramshackle apartment in Greenwich Village. Directed by Gene Seitz (582896) 5.35 *Neighbours* (7) (11378821)  
**6.00 News** with Andrew Harvey, (Ceefax) Weather (537054)  
**6.15 Regional News Magazines** (532503), N Ireland: Inside Ulster  
**6.30 The 50th Anniversary**, New Year's Eve Show. Mike Smith introduces a festive edition of the game show. The guests include Lesley Joseph and Keith Barron. (Ceefax) (7) (734)  
**7.00 Eastenders**, (Ceefax) (7) (7325)  
**7.30 Bruce Forsyth: 50 Years in Showbusiness**, A tribute to the enduring entertainer. (Ceefax) (7) (531888)  
**8.20 Film: Appointment with Death** (1987). Another case for Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot (Peter Ustinov). Based on a relatively straightforward novel, Poirot is called in to investigate the murder of a wicked stepmother, Lauren Bacall and John Gielgud provide supporting roles but it is a tedious effort. Directed by Michael Winner (32810141)  
**10.00 News** with Andrew Harvey, (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (525344)  
**10.20 Film: James on 1992**, An arctic record of the year by the Antipodean wit (7) (114257), Northern Ireland: Rab C. Nesbitt 11.10 *Scotch 'n' Whisky* 11.00-11.10 *Hogmanay Live*; Wales: Except for Viewers in England 11.00 Rab C. Nesbitt 11.50 *Hogmanay Live* 11.00 *Happy New Year* 1.05-1.10 *News and Weather*  
**12.05am Happy New Year**, The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, reflects on the opportunities the New Year offers (5622913)  
**12.10am The 1992 Yearbook** (1992) starring Michael Palin. The first in the series, the yearbook is a collection of the best of the year. Michael Palin is ordered to investigate a brain drain among British scientists. A stylish, downbeat thriller, directed by Sidney J. Furie. (Ceefax) (555081) 1.55 *Weather* (5346542)

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## BBC2

**6.55 Film: Spirit of the People** (1940), Raymond Massey stars in a solid drama about the early life of John Cromwell (5271948)  
**8.40 Film: Shall We Dance** (1937), b/w, Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers and Ira Gershwin musical about a ballet dancer who falls for a musical comedy star. Directed by Mark Sandrich (8707073)  
**10.25 Pigeon Street**, Animation (1828073)  
**10.40 Chinese Street Circus**, With 45 acrobatic performers, a Chinese band and costumes from the Peking Opera (5494988)  
**11.30 Aspen - Colorado**, A humorous look at the United States' most famous ski resort by the distinguished documentary director Frederick Wiseman (58804238)  
**1.50 Geraint Evans Masterclass**, In the last of the series Sir Geraint works with young singers on Mozart's *Coste fan tutte* (7) (1996412)  
**2.50 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures**, The penultimate lecture given by Professor Charles Sillars. He discusses Symmetry, Sensation and Sex (5042290) 3.50 *The Works*, A scientific look at liquid engineering (7), (Ceefax) (5371932)  
**4.10 10.10 The Last Harvest** (b/w), Barker Khan reflects on his career as he cuts his last head of hair before retirement (7) (7611412)  
**4.20 World Darts**, Highlights of the final of the 1992 Embassy World championship between Mike Gregory and Phil Taylor (7) (5534877)  
**5.00 Fiddler's Green**, Nick Faldo wins his 1992 Open (7) (247862)  
**5.50 Life With Eliza**, Last in the Edwardian comedy drama series starring John Sessions (585880)  
**6.00 Film: The Black Stallion** (1979) starring Mickey Rooney, Kelly Reno and Teri Garr. Lush version of the children's story about the adventures of a boy and his Arabian horse. Directed by Carroll Ballard (5054)  
**6.00 I'm A Stranger Here Myself - Kurt Weill in America**, Kurt Weill eventually sailed for New York and quickly found a home from home. "I even count in English", he wrote, after Broadway successes such as *Kickerbocker Hotley*, *Lady in the Dark* and *One Night of the Town* confirmed a seemingly effortless transition from Brechtian opera to the American musical stage. Weill's determination to get under the American skin is impressive. He worked with Moss Hart, Maxwell Anderson, Ira Gershwin and Alan Jay Lerner. He set music to the poems of Walt Whitman. The closing of the Atlantic overland repeated his marriage to Lotte Lenya. But Weill's film uses musical illustrations and first-hand memories and anticipates the English National Opera production of *Street Scene* which is on BBC2 tomorrow (7) (6783)  
**9.00 The Vampire - A Soap Opera**, Part three of the updating of a 19th-century romantic opera (7) (787238)  
**9.25 The Doug Anthony All-Stars**, Music and comedy from the irreverent Australian trio. Their guest is comedian Flacco (420431)



On a medieval quest: Graham Chapman, right (10.00pm)

**10.00 Film: Monty Python and the Holy Grail** (1974), © CHOICE: The Python team learn that the King Arthur legend with Graham Chapman as the king and Cleese, Palin and company as everyone else. Never mind the story, which is only an excuse for a volley of zany and inconsequential gags, served up with the usual interruptions and false starts. The film was shot in Scotland, handily so considering the modest budget, and if the jokes fall there is usually splendid scenery to look at. The revue format of loosely connected sketches, helped along by the Python's animations, sometimes struggles to fill the 90 minutes. But the facts have soaked themselves sufficiently in the conventions of medieval chivalry to know how to send them up and there are ample gags to warrant staying the course. (Ceefax) (80796), Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster News 10.20 *Clive James* 12.05am 1.35 *Film: Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, Wales: In the Making 10.20 *Clive James* 12.05-1.30 *Film: Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, 11.30 *Rab C. Nesbitt*, Comedy from the Scots street philosopher, starring Graham Fisher (522038)  
**12.20am Without You I'm Nothing** starring American comedienne Sandra Bernhard (7) (589510) 1.40 *Weather* (724142)

## TV LONDON

**6.00 TV-am** (5084615)  
**9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man**, Animation (525870) 9.50 *Thames News* (733238) 9.55 *Cartoon Time* (7156412)  
**10.15 Film: The Sons of Kaleb Elder** (1968) starring John Wayne and Dean Martin. Lively but routine western about four brothers who return to Texas for the funeral of their mother, discover that she died penniless and vow their revenge. Directed by Henry Hathaway (79044073)  
**12.30 ITN News**, (Ceefax) Weather (1204290) 12.50 *Thames News* (7190299) 1.00 *Home and Away*, Australian family drama serial. (Ceefax) (23344)  
**1.30 Film: Cheech and Chong** (1989) starring Keith Coogan and Lucy Deakins. A Disney adventure about two American children living in Kenya who adopt an orphan cheetah cub. When it seems that they will be returning to California they decide to re-train the animal to fend for itself in the wild, but then it is captured by a poacher. Directed by Jeff Blyth (7) (84968)  
**3.00 ITN News** headlines (715694) 3.05 *Thames News* headlines (7156219) 3.10 *Take the High Road*, Highlands-based drama serial (1117102) 3.35 *Cartoon* (567551)  
**3.45 B.B. Family drama** starring Kevin Whately as an unemployed architect who decides to turn his south coast house into a bed and breakfast establishment but runs into opposition from the authorities (7) (582241)  
**5.40 East Enders**, News, (Ceefax) Weather (584998) 5.55 *Thames News* (507325)  
**6.00 Home and Away** (7), (Ceefax) (370)  
**6.30 Emmerdale**, Drama serial set in the Yorkshire Dales, where villagers greet 1993 with mixed emotions (Ceefax) (122)  
**7.00 McCartney**, Squares and the London Inspirational Choir (71248)  
**7.30 The End of the Year Show: The Best...** from Thames. A compilation of clips from Thames Television classics (5615851)  
**11.55 News**, Followed by Big Ben (530073)  
**12.00am Cartoon New Year**, A music and comedy special presented by Chris Tarrant heralding the start of Carlton, the new franchise holder for weekday television in London. Among the guests are Paul McCartney, Squares and the London Inspirational Choir (71248)  
**1.30 Film: Best Defence** (1984) starring Dudley Moore and Eddie Murphy. Feeble comedy about an engineer who stumbles across a secret formula that is being sought by a madcap industrial spy. Directed by Willard Huyck (870456)  
**3.15 Film: Murder Takes All** (1989) starring Stacy Keach. Mickey Spillane's private detective Mike Hammer accepts a palimony case and ends up being framed for murder. Directed by John Niccolini (2918270) 3.30 *News* (227671)  
**4.05 Backtrack '92**, Highlights from the year's big musical events (7) (474739)  
**5.55 ITN Morning News** (542555), Ends at 6.00



Trouble brewing: Trudie Goodwin is put in danger (8.00pm)

**8.00 The BBC: When Push Comes to Shove**, Off-duty PCs Loxton and Quinlan place WPC Addie (Trudie Goodwin) in danger when they have a brush with a violent thug. (Ceefax) (1141)  
**8.30 John Le Carré's A Murder of Quality** starring Denholm Elliott and Glenda Jackson. Spy-master George Smiley returns to join forces with his former colleague Alec Leamas when he receives a letter from the wife of public school master predicting her own death and warning her husband as the perpetrator (7), (Ceefax) (7) (88451)  
**10.30 News**, (Ceefax) Weather (45898)  
**10.45 The End of the Year Show: The Best...** from Thames. A compilation of clips from Thames Television classics (5615851)  
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## CHANNEL 4

**6.00 Carbons** (84257) 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (28899)  
**9.00 You Bet Your Life**, American game show (7) (6245877)  
**9.25 Laurel and Hardy** (5818508) 9.30 *Sesame Street* (80218)  
**10.30 Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge**, This morning Hale Irwin and Tom Torrance are joined by boxer Jim Watt and Going for Gold Classic FM's Henry Kelly who plays a shot at the ninth hole stroke of magical mastery. A joy to behold, easily scoring it. duffers he played on the previous eight holes (51658)  
**11.30 Kattse and Allie**, American comedy series (3897)  
**12.00 Gazebo**, The third of a four-part Asian songwriting competition (18560)  
**12.30 Famous People... Famous Places... Quiz game** (7) (81431)  
**1.00 Film: For the Love of Benji** (1977). Children's adventure about remarkable mongrel. When his master is drugged and kidnapped by a spy in Athens, the villain uses Benji to hide vital information on his paw. Directed by Joe Camp (972)  
**2.30 Banquet Duet**, The musical relationship between classic and jazz trumpet Wynton Marsalis and singer Kathleen Battle (7) (81306)  
**4.00 One Family: The Price of Bread**, A portrait of a Palestinian family whose life is blighted by political oppression (5290)  
**5.00 Germaine**, © CHOICE: Part of the project that kicked off with Peter Greenaway's *Darwin*, this stylish portrait comes from the French film director Alain Resnais. The George Gershwin story has been often told, not least in television documentaries, but Resnais brings it up fresh. For one thing he starts from the end, Gershwin's early death from a brain tumour, and works back. For another, he breaks up the standard formula of clips and interviews with a series of expressive montages, one of which offers a year-by-year chronicle of the composer's prolific output. The film also makes striking use of still photographs and painted backgrounds. But there is content as well as packaging, with a proper tribute to Gershwin's innovative style. Admirers include Resnais's fellow directors Bertrand Tavernier and Martin Scorsese (7) (8306)  
**6.00 Roseanne**, Widescreen comedy series starring Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman (7), (Ceefax) (112)  
**6.30 Gamechanger**, A special part edition of the computer game show. The guests include Lifford Christie and Carl Lewis (784)  
**7.00 The Wonder Years**, A compilation of clips from the first four years of the comedy about growing up in 1960s America, starring Fred Savage (7) (4688)  
**7.30 News** summary and weather (140122) Followed by *The Magic of Bing Crosby*, A musical history of one of the world's most successful entertainers (564219)



Blat from the comic past: Max Miller lives again (8.30pm)

**8.30 Heroes of Comedy**, © CHOICE: John Fisher's loving compilation is a celebration of British comedians with examples from the variety stage, cinema, radio and television. The clip run from Robb Wilton in 1930 to Frankie Howerd in 1991, with a glance back to Dan Leno and comments from contemporary practitioners such as Victoria Wood and John Sessions. Without trying to impose any pattern or thesis, Fisher cross-cuts revealingly between Howerd and Max Miller, sets Les Dawson's "dame" against Norman Evans' and explores favourite joke subjects such as hospitals and sex. But essentially this is a chance to wallow in a non-stop feast of fun, served up by the best in the business - Harry Tate, Sid James, Will Hay, Max Wall, Jimmy James, Tommy Cooper, Ken Dodd and many, many others. Seldom will two-and-a-half hours pass so quickly (7) (844306)  
**11.00 Ready, Steady, Go!**, A vintage edition of the 1960s pop music programme featuring the Rolling Stones (7) (4219)  
**11.30 Big Breakfast: End of the Year Show**, With Chris Evans, Gaby Roslin, Paula Yates and Matt Lauer (58431)  
**1.00am Roger Moore**, Carlton (589738)  
**1.10 Ray Charles**, The veteran blues musician in a concert recorded in America in 1991 (7) (255137)  
**2.20 Free Concert**, The Free perform before an audience of more than 4,000 during the Isle of Wight festival in 1970 (4658223), Ends at 3.10

## VARIATIONS

## ANGLIA

As London except: 9.25 *Clara's Life* (7) (721388) 10.45-11.30 *Film: Lost in London* (4828119) 1.30-2.00 *Film: Charlie, the Lionhearted Clown* (40488) 6.30 *Anglia News* (577025) 7.00 *Emmerdale* (2482) 7.30-8.00 *Jimmy's New Year Special* (500) 12.00 *Film: Best Defence* (581285) 1.45 *Film: Murder Takes All* (751854) 3.30 *Film: Tommy* (5227130) 5.45-6.30 *Clara's Life*, (Ceefax) (7) (332401)

## BORDER

As London except: 3.10 *When You Were Here*, (7) (405075) 6.30-7.00 *Home and Away* (583303) 6.30 *Lookaround* (72) 6.30 *News* (583303) 7.00 *Emmerdale* (2482) 7.30-8.00 *Jimmy's New Year Special* (500) 12.00 *Film: Best Defence* (581285) 1.45 *Film: Murder Takes All* (751854) 3.30 *Film: Tommy* (5227130) 5.45-6.30 *Clara's Life*, (Ceefax) (7) (332401)

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## RADIO 3

**6.55am Weather**  
**7.00 Mozart to Mozart's Tears**, Mozart (Claudio Monteverdi in A, (K262); Johann Sebastian Bach, Op. 14 No. 1; Carl Stamitz, Flute Concerto in G, Op. 29)  
**8.00 News**  
**8.30 Mozart to Mozart's Tears** (cont); Klaus Symphonic in C minor; Gluck (Dance of the Blessed Spirits, Orfeo ed Euridice); Claudio Monteverdi (Concerto No. 15 in B flat, K450)  
**9.00 Composer of the Week: Offenbach**, The Serenade, Christopher Columbus; Les Belles Americaines; La Parolache, Act 1, part 1 (Opera Chorus of the Grand Theatre de Strasbourg PO under Alain Lombard); American Eagle Waltz Overture; Ballet de la Compagnie de la danse, Les voyages dans le temps  
**10.00 Morning Sequence: Mozart** (String Quintet in B flat, K174); Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, Op. 61; Tchaikovsky (The Seasons, Op. 37b); Vivaldi (Concerto for trumpet, cello and strings, Op. 10); Suk (On Christmas Eve); Ravel (Christmas Eve in the Forest); Ravel (Christmas Eve in the Forest); Ravel (Christmas Eve in the Forest)  
**10.05am Mozart's Tears**, Ruth Williamson, violin; Mary Kay, piano; BBC National Orchestra of Wales, BBC National Chorus of Wales, BBC National Chorus of Wales, BBC National Chorus of Wales  
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Boardman and Gunnell among Britain's gold medal team recognised

## Olympic winners are honoured

By DAVID POWELL

THE sportsmen and women who brought Olympic glory to Britain in Barcelona last summer are recognised in the New Year's honours list published today. Sally Gunnell, the 400 metres hurdles champion, and Chris Boardman, the 4,000 metres cycling pursuit gold medal-winner, are appointed MBEs, as are the rowers, Matthew Pinsent, Greg Searle and Jonny Searle. Their fellow Olympic champions, Linford Christie and Steven Redgrave, do not appear on the list because they have been honoured before. Mary Glen Haig, one of Britain's two representatives on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) — the Princess Royal is the other — is elevated from OBE to Dame Commander of the British Empire.

Tanni Grey and Chris Holmes, Britain's Paralympic champions who won ten gold medals between them, are also created MBEs. Grey won four athletics wheelchair events

and the partially-sighted Holmes six in the swimming pool. Gordon Strachan, the inspiration behind Leeds United's Barclays League championship victory last season, is appointed an OBE for his services to football, and another Scot, David Sole, who captained his country's rugby union team a record 25 times before retiring last summer, is similarly recognised. Strachan said: "Although it is a personal honour, I regard it as one for the club and for the city of Leeds as well." Sole took Scotland to the grand slam in his first season as captain in 1989-90. "I'm chuffed about this," Boardman said yesterday. "It is great to have the recognition and now the next step must be to see how we can use it to help cycling." Boardman was the first British winner of an Olympic individual cycling gold medal for 84 years. "I've always said that it takes many bricks to build a wall and I

owe so much to the team that has supported me," he said. Gunnell's award comes after a year in which she captained the British women's Olympic team, became the first British woman to win an Olympic track race for 28 years, then went off to Miami to be married. Pinsent, winner of the men's coxed pairs with Redgrave, is joined on the MBE rostrum by the Searle brothers, together with the man who coxed them to victory in the men's coxed pairs, Garry Herbert. Glen Haig, 74, competed in four successive Olympics, from 1948 to 1960, was chairman of the Central Council of Physical Recreation from 1974 to 1982, and became an IOC member in 1983. She is honoured for her services to sport, which include serving on the IOC medical commission. As she will be 75 next year, she must retire from the IOC.

Another leading international British officer of sport, Arthur Jones, president of the International Badminton Federation for the past two years, is created a CBE. Under his presidency, badminton made its entry into the Olympics. He is a former president of the Badminton Association of England.

Micky Stewart, who retired last summer after six years as the England cricket team manager, is appointed an OBE. Only 12 of 58 Test matches were won under his management, but his worth was summed up by Graham Gooch, who said: "When I started, all the assistance that a captain got was the chairman of selectors strolling up to the nets and offering what advice he could. Micky changed all that."

Nick Gillingham, Britain's bronze medal-winner in the 200 metres breaststroke, and Sharron Davies, who took silver in the 400 metres medley at the 1980 Moscow Olympics and who came out of retirement to compete in Barcelona, fly the flag for swimming. Sean Kerly, a member of Britain's gold medal-winning men's hockey team in Seoul in 1988, is created an MBE too after departing the international scene in Barcelona.



On a cycle of success: Barcelona winner Boardman is created an MBE

## Coleman given honour Reynolds calls IAAF 'vindictive'

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

DAVID Coleman, the most-imitated, the most-respected (and, at the same time, the most-mocked) of British television sports commentators, is today appointed OBE in the New Year Honours for his services to broadcasting. Coleman has been the BBC's "voice of sport" for more than 30 years and is still going strong, heading the athletics coverage from the Olympic Games this year and chairing the present series of *A Question of Sport*, despite collapsing through exhaustion four years ago. Coleman, 66 years old and the father of six children, has been an important part in making British sports television among the best in the world, covering every World Cup football tournament since 1958 and every Olympic Games since 1960. Through *Grandstand*,

*Match of the Day*, *Sportsnight* and *A Question of Sport* — as well as the Colemanballs column in *Private Eye* and his puppet caricature on *Spitting Image* — Coleman has become something of a cult figure. David Mellor, the former Heritage secretary, has described Coleman as "a national treasure". Desmond Lynam, his fellow sports commentator on the BBC, says: "Nearly every sports fan has his doppelgänger — Peter O'Sullivan, Peter Alliss, Murray Walker, David Coleman. These guys are going to be very difficult to replace."

Coleman is famous for his gaffes: he called hole-in-the-heart footballer Asa Hartford "a whole-hearted player" and commented that "Forest are having a bad run — they've lost six matches without winning." But he is noted, too, for his professionalism: when terrorists invaded the Olympic village at Munich in 1972, he described events with graphic and sensitive skill. After joining the BBC in Birmingham in 1958, he showed his versatility by covering everything from *Come Dancing* to Royal weddings, but he always saw himself primarily as an all-round sports journalist.



Coleman: voice of sport

## Tottenham in dispute over Redknapp fee

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Football League has prohibited Bournemouth, of the second division, from buying new players following a dispute over money the club is said to owe to Tottenham Hotspur, of the Premier League.

Tottenham claim the club is owed £11,250 following the sale to Bournemouth of Jamie Redknapp in 1989. Part of the deal obliged Bournemouth to pay Tottenham 15 per cent of any future transfer deals involving Redknapp, who has since moved to Liverpool for a basic fee of £300,000. Liverpool recently paid Bournemouth a further £75,000 after Redknapp made his 25th first-team appearance, but Tottenham complained to the Football League that they had not received their cut.

Bournemouth's financial director, Ken Gardiner, confirmed that the League had placed an embargo on Bournemouth buying any more players and said: "We will be making the payment next week."

The dispute continues a difficult week for Bournemouth, who have debts of £2.6 million, following the announcement that they had paid their former manager, Harry Redknapp, Jamie's father, a golden handshake of £100,000.

The club chairman, Norman Hayward, said: "When Harry told us he was finished with football — and he did a great job for the club — we took it at face value. At the time, we believed he was finished with the game." In fact, Redknapp joined West Ham United soon afterwards as assistant manager.

There was better news for another second division club, Bolton Wanderers, who will host one of the outstanding ties in the FA Cup third round when they play Liverpool at Burnden Park on Sunday. They strengthened their hand yesterday when they completed the signing of David Lee, a winger, from Southampton. Lee, 25, who had been on loan with Bolton for almost two months, cost £200,000 but that could later rise to



£300,000 with payments linked to appearances. Liverpool are guaranteed a searching examination of their defence, which has been inconsistent all season. Since joining Bolton from Celtic for a fee of just £100,000 last season, Andy Walker has scored 34 goals in 48 senior games, while John McGinlay has proved similarly effective, scoring nine times since his £150,000 transfer from Millwall three months ago.

Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, has yet to field an unchanged side so far this season, a record which will be maintained this weekend as Redknapp is unavailable because of suspension.

With several of his re-assigned senior squad also still unavailable because of long-term injury problems, Souness may recall Michael Thomas, now fully fit after an Achilles tendon operation.

Queens Park Rangers, who play Swindon Town at Loftus Road on Monday, will have an extra reason to want success. Their forward, Les Ferdinand, whose form has carried him to the fringe of the England team, seems likely to leave if Rangers are eliminated from the Cup.

Rangers may be prepared to consider overtures from Liverpool and Newcastle United for the striker if they lose, particularly if they subsequently drop down the Premier League, but it will need a record-breaking deal to prise Ferdinand, 26, from Loftus Road. Rangers are believed to have rejected a £3.3 million Newcastle bid for Ferdinand on Christmas eve.

However, the club's chairman, Richard Thompson, yesterday admitted he may be prepared to sell Ferdinand — if the price is right. "If someone came in with an offer of, say, £5 million, I would be stupid not to consider it, as I'm sure any rational fan would agree," he said.

Marlow's big day, page 38

## Royal Gait dies

ROYAL Gait, the champion hurdler, died of a heart attack after finishing fourth in the Bookmakers' Hurdle at Leopardstown yesterday. He collapsed under his jockey, Graham McCourt, moments after crossing the line.

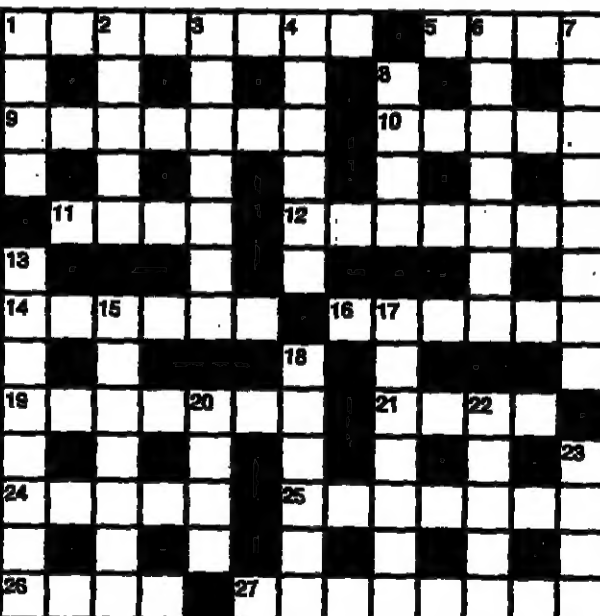
Making his seasonal debut, the nine-year-old, owned by Shaikh Mohammed and trained in Newmarket by James Fanshawe, completed the race just over six lengths behind the winner, Novello Allegro.

Jim Lenehan, the assistant manager at the shalikh's Kildangan Stud, said: "The horse wobbled just after passing the post. Graham thought he had broken down but when he went to pull him up he fell from under him."

Royal Gait, never a stranger to controversy, was disqualified after comfortably winning the 1988 Ascot Gold Cup, a decision which still arouses fierce debate.

Racing, page 35

### CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2984



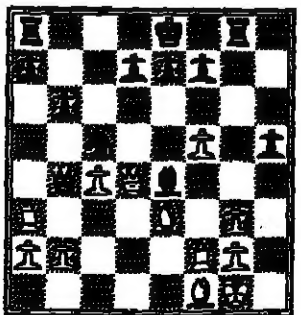
- ACROSS  
1 Leading troops (8)  
5 This way (4)  
9 Cheese on toast (7)  
10 Pivot (5)  
11 S West US plateau (4)  
12 Rejection (7)  
14 Block (6)  
16 Wax stick (6)  
19 Few (7)  
21 Lights out signal (4)  
24 Pawnbroker (5)  
25 Wrestler (7)  
26 Homework (4)  
27 Gradual ski turn (8)
- DOWN  
1 Alter (4)  
2 Impudence (5)  
3 Admonish (7)  
4 Go to bed (6)  
6 Trustworthiness (7)  
7 Bump (8)  
8 Male cook (4)  
13 Bar leap (4,4)  
15 Spirit (7)  
17 Go back over (7)  
18 Pestilence (6)  
20 Sense (4)  
22 British New Guinea (5)  
23 Bird jaws (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2983  
ACROSS: 1 Immortal 7 Forge 8 Saxophone 9 Sun 10 Damp 11 Canvas 12 Remedy 14 Murder 19 Parole 20 Snag 21 Ore 23 Stabilise 24 Batts 25 Dislikes  
DOWN: 1 Insider 2 Maximum 3 Rape 4 Anorak 5 Brass 6 Means 7 Fervour 12 Address 15 Dunkirk 16 Regress 17 Alkali 18 Booby 19 Petty 22 Dial

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### WINNING MOVE

This position is from the game Chandler — Larsen, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1990/91. Here, white found a clever move exploiting the dangerous position of the black queen. Can you see it? This year's Hastings tournament features the Hungarian prodigy Judit Polgar. Further details from the British Chess Federation on 0424 442500 (Raymond Keene).



Solution on page 34.

By PHILIP HOWARD  
REHOBOAM  
a. A shovel hat  
b. A large bottle  
c. A Puritan heretic  
OPTIMIFIC  
a. Novelistic happy endings  
b. A type of camera lens  
c. Producing best consequences

INDENTER  
a. Something that indents  
b. An Army clerk  
c. A front tooth  
MESETA  
a. A Mexican coin  
b. A high plateau  
c. An hors d'oeuvre

Answers on page 34

## Christie's choice causes concern

MANCHESTER'S team, striving to bring the Olympic Games to the city in the year 2000 was alarmed yesterday by reports from Australia that Linford Christie had said that Sydney would be a better choice for the Games. Christie, captain of the British athletics team and the gold medal winner in the 100 metres in Barcelona earlier this year, said Sydney had better weather and would be a better venue. Christie — who praised the city in a Manchester 2000 newsletter, "Our Golden Future", only two months ago — was being interviewed in Sydney when he made his remarks. He is in Australia for warm-weather training before a 1993 programme that includes the world championships and, in all probability, a series of races with Carl

Lewis. Leaders of the Manchester bid — which is being backed by £70 million from the government — were disappointed at his comments. They said the Manchester climate was better in July and August than Sydney would be in October, when it proposes to stage the Games. "Perceptions of rainfall in the period when we would host the Games are simply not borne out by the facts," a Manchester 2000 spokesman said last night. He said that average monthly rainfall over the last ten years in Manchester had been 52mm in July and 78mm in August, compared with 75mm in Sydney in October. He also claimed that humidity in Manchester, at 63 per cent, would be lower than



that in Sydney. It is also much lower than in both Barcelona, where the 1992 Games were held, and Atlanta, host for 1996. "We don't know whether Linford has been quoted out of context, but it is very disappointing," said one member of the bid team. The International Olym-

pic Committee is to decide in September on the venue for the 2000 Games. The candidates, apart from Manchester and Sydney, include Peking, Berlin, Milan, Istanbul and Tashkent. In Sydney, Christie confirmed that he would retire after the 1994 Commonwealth Games. "I've given myself two more years, to include next year's world championships and the defence of my title at the Commonwealth Games," Christie said. He originally announced his retirement in August last year, two days after finishing fourth in the 100 metres at the world championships in Tokyo. But with some persuasion from his coach, Ron Roddan, Christie changed his mind and came back for a magnificent win in Barcelona.

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